

Mom...Guess What!

N E W S P A P E R

FOR WOMEN AND MEN OF THE GAY COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS IN THE CAPITAL AND NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

ISSUE #48

DEADLINE: 15TH OF THE MONTH

AUGUST, 1982

Return of the Pink Triangle?

by Mark Vandervelden

Kaposi's Sarcoma, Pneumocystis, and other acquired immuno deficiency (AID) related diseases may prove to be as serious a threat to civil liberties as to public health.

Public health officials, medical researchers, and gay activists are alarmed by a recent report confirming three cases of AID syndrome in non-gay hemophiliacs. Hemophiliacs are people who have inherited a blood clotting disorder and require large amounts of blood products to ward off infection. To this point, no one knows why or how AID syndrome is transmitted. But medical researchers reasoned that if an infectious agent like a virus was being transmitted by blood, the disease would eventually appear in hemophiliacs, the people most likely to get these blood related illnesses.

Researchers are worried because if some homophiliacs are getting AID viral agents in transfused blood products, there may be others, not necessarily homophiliacs, who are getting the agent also. Unlike the Hepatitis B virus which can be screened, the AID virus, if it exists at all, cannot. This raises a series of troubling questions for public health officials. How do you screen blood for a potentially fatal substance without knowing if it really exists, and if it does, what it looks like? In the meantime, what steps should be taken to insure that people receiving blood products or blood transfusions are not getting contaminated blood?

One idea under consideration is the imposition of a quarantine on gay blood donors. Federal Health officials, researchers at the National Center for Disease Control, and members of the National Gay Task Force have been meeting in Washington to consider the options. Dr. Harold Jaffe, part of the CDC's Kaposi Sarcoma Task Force says a quarantine is likely to be considered seriously. "If it were perfectly clear cut, it would be an easy decision. It's kind of in a grey zone here. The evidence is certainly suggestive that this may be transmissible (by blood), but if you accept that assumption, and then say 'well, what do we do now?' you're talking about things with tremendous social and economic implications. It would be a big step to say that from now on this group of people or this other group of people shouldn't donate blood."

The civil liberty consequences for gay people should the quaran-

tine option be chosen are sweeping. How will the government determine who is or isn't a public health threat by donating blood? A computer registry? A volunteer system? How will public attitudes towards gays change as a result of an official declaration that gay blood could contaminate blood banks.

Many public health officials say it is too soon for gays to be concerned about quarantines. The evidence, while strong, isn't strong enough to warrant such drastic steps. Dr. George Hardy, Center for Disease Control in Washington, "It's a tremendous amount of unknown at the moment. The

question is, is it transmissible, and if so, is it transmissible in blood products? Then we have to ask if there is a way to screen, and the idea of asking people to not donate blood... Well, that's just way down the line."

Still, gay activists are concerned that public health politics could become a potent propaganda tool in the hands of a federal administration which has not made a name for itself as a strong force for civil rights generally. There are some activists who fear that there may return a time where the pink triangle used to identify gays in Nazi Germany may again find a place in society. ■

Waters Meets with Local Group

by Phil Hoskins

Declaring that Sacramento is not ready for an openly gay endorsement of his candidacy for Sheriff, Robbie Waters has asked the gay community to raise funds for his campaign and vote for him in November. Waters, currently a Lieutenant with the Sacramento City Police Department, met recently with a small group of local gays to explain his positions on gay-related issues.

He promised to institute sensitivity training for all present and newly recruited sheriff's personnel in order to better equip them to deal with the gay community. "What I have in mind is using articulate, professional people from the gay community for this purpose" declared Waters. He illustrated what he meant by recounting how his use of the word "boy" during a black riot nearly destroyed efforts to quell the disturbance. "It was an unthinking act and the kind of thing which can be avoided by proper training," said Waters.

In response to a question of whether he would pledge to reform practices at the Sheriff-administered county jail, Waters indicated that he did not want to offend present jail personnel by making an issue of their behavior. He said, "where there is smoke there is fire, and I don't doubt that the many reports of abusive behavior against blacks, hispanics and gays have some basis." But Waters was unwilling to take the lead in raising

the issue against his opponent, Duane Lowe, the current Sheriff.

"We did well in all the minority communities in the primary. I think we carried about 90% of Lavendar Heights. I don't want to risk offending the conservative vote by having a gay endorsement," Waters said. He added that he felt the gay community should vote for him because he had an even-handed approach to issues and that Lowe had proved himself to be a very prejudiced man.

Waters has consistently said that he will give no special favor to gays but will have an "open door policy." "You can always talk to me about problems. Those that have worked with me on the police force will tell you that I am a fair person and willing to listen to your viewpoint."

"I am not, however, going to go out and recruit gays for the Sheriff's department. I don't think Sacramento is ready for that. I know that I can't discriminate against gays, but I think an openly gay police officer would be disruptive right now," Waters declared in an earlier meeting with gays before the primary election.

Many of those attending the session with Waters plan to solicit funds for his campaign from the gay community in conjunction with a register-to-vote drive. Sac-Pac leaders Kathy Gage and Jim Graham will spearhead the drive to elect Waters as a demonstration to the community at large of the power of the "gay vote". ■



Bee Editor Speaks to MGW Staff

Sacramento Bee's Executive Editor, Frank McCulloch, recently shared his expertise with the Mom...Guess What! Newspaper staff at David's Soup and Salad. McCulloch offered general information about the newspaper business and provided specific information for improving writing styles and layout. Staff members flooded McCulloch with questions, making for a very informative evening. Special thanks go to David's Soup and Salad for the use of the restaurant. Photo by Frank Lawler

Hepatitis-B Vaccine Update

by Sandy Pomerantz, M.D.

Ladies and Gentlemen — the hepatitis vaccine for immunization against hepatitis-B has arrived. Unfortunately, the screening process to check if any individual needs that vaccine has broken down and is presently unavailable on a free basis in Sacramento. Free screening can be obtained through the Serex Company in San Francisco on Church and Market Streets. Alternatively, screening can be done through anyone of two local laboratories here in Sacramento. The cost of the screening will be approximately \$50. While expensive, the necessity for screening and subsequent vaccination of those people who are not presently immune to hepatitis-B cannot be overemphasized.

There are presently 200,000 cases of hepatitis-B in the United States being reported or estimated to be reported per year. 50,000 people with hepatitis-B will become jaundiced. Therefore, 150,000 people may not know that they have hepatitis. Of this group, 4,000 people are expected to go onto develop chronic active hepatitis which can lead to cirrhosis. It is also estimated that because of its relationship to hepatocellular carcinoma (cancer of the liver), 800 cases of liver cancer are being reported per year due to hepatitis-B virus. Therefore, if one is not presently immune to hepatitis-B, it is extremely important to be vaccinated.

The vaccinations require the screening, and if the screening reveals no immunity, an immunization shot is definitely indicated. This will need to be repeated at one month and then at six months.

The side-effects of the vaccine are minimal, namely, pain at the

site of injection lasting less than 24 hours and a low grade fever lasting less than 24 hours. The vaccine is highly purified. It is safe. There is no evidence of any associated diseases with the vaccination. It has been tested in multiple studies including a very large field test in San Francisco over a three-year period where no serious consequences were noted and with an effectiveness of greater than 98%.

Hepatitis-B vaccine is recommended for all gay men who have sexual encounters with more than one partner if there is no evidence of previous exposure and immunity. The Center for Disease Control recommends that sexually active gay men with more than one partner be vaccinated if there is no evidence of exposure and/or previous immunity. I concur completely with its recommendation as do most, if not all, members of the gay physicians community. It should not be much longer that hepatitis-B is a disease of the past.

Do your part to help end this epidemic — get screened, and if not immune, get vaccinated! ■

Russian River Plans Events for Gays With Families

A number of businesses of 'Russian River Country' have reserved Sunday evening, 15 August, to Friday morning, 27 August, as Gay FAMILY Days on the Russian River. Special rates, prizes, and events at resorts, restaurants, campgrounds, amusement parks, stores, parks, and other businesses are being planned. Full details will be available in a few weeks. ■

Tickets Available For Gay Olympics

Tickets are now on sale for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Gay Olympic Games. The Games begin Saturday, August 28, and close Sunday, September 5. Tickets for each ceremony are \$15 a piece; a combination ticket for the opening and closing events is \$25. Tickets for other events in the weeklong San Francisco-based games are also on sale. To purchase tickets, contact Gay Olympic Games, P.O. Box 14874, San Francisco, 94114, or call (415) 861-8282. 6

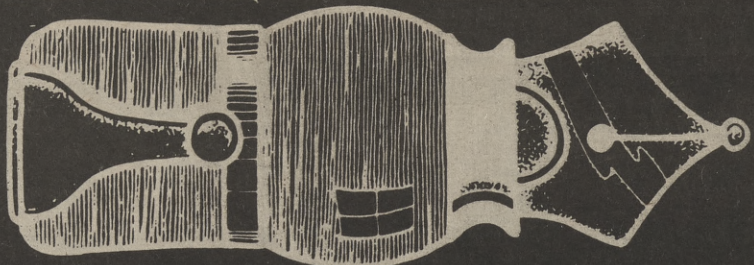
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Write!

MGW welcomes letters to "WRITE!" If at all possible, your letters should be typed, double-spaced. We will not publish anonymous letters, but will withhold names on request. Letters reflect only the opinions of their authors, not necessarily the views of MGW or its staff. Address letters to "WRITE!", MGW, Box 8170, Sacramento, CA 95818.

Coming Out on the Yolo Causeway

Dear Editor:

I would just love to share the following experience with your reading public:

It was July 13, a 100° in the shade. I had left my office in Davis at 5 p.m. — feeling good. My '75 Toyota had been heating up in the last few days, so I watched the temperature gauge as I entered the freeway toward Sacramento. I made a conscious effort not to exceed the speed limit. Everything progressed fine. Of all places, I would hate to have car trouble on the Yolo Causeway with no way to get help but walking quite a few miles...

Speaking of trouble, I saw a woman, yellow blouse, denim skirt, on the side of the road, trying to flag down a tow truck going in the opposite direction...Faster than I can write this, I thought of the many times I had passed people on the freeway who obviously needed help but I was-going-too-fast-to-stop. This time I had time to stop, so I did, pulled off the slow lane into the emergency stop lane, backed off for a longer distance than I thought...

She's got a flat tire. Here I come, knight in shining armour, backwards, in my metallic brown Toyota. But she sees through it all and pretends not to see my car backing up to her. On my left: the BIG TRUCKS, campers, U-Hauls,

Cadillacs, Isuzus, U-Name it, they all wheeze by in sonic booms of heat and dust. I didn't know there was such 5 o'clock traffic on the Yolo Causeway.

—"NEED SOME HELP?" (We have to shout over the traffic noise). She's blonde, short hair, good looking. About my age.

—"Do you think I could get a tow truck?"

—"Yes, but it would take a long time. They have to go all the way that way before they can get all the way back this way. You have a flat tire? (She's standing with her jack in two parts, one on each hand).

"Which side is it on?" (I ascertain it's on the safe side).

The jack looks like something I have never seen before...

—"I don't know how this works."

—"Well do you think I could get a tow truck?"

—"Maybe we can figure this out."

We struggle. I get the jack off my Toyota. It doesn't work, or I don't know how it works. But my bar works in her jack. We get it. It's coming up! Slowly, the tire (in shreds) lifts off the ground. I take it off (with her help). We put on the spare.

—"Gee. I haven't changed a tire since the first time I was on my way to California and I had a flat tire somewhere about 90 miles from El Paso... years ago."

—"You're a hero. Can I pay you?"

—"No."

—"Your wife should be proud of you."

—"I'm not married."

—"Oh, my God. What's my husband going to say when I tell him!...Can I pay you? (She's so grateful her eyes glisten).

—"No, Oh, no!"

We have picked up everything and we walk to our respective cars as the BIG TRUCKS wheeze by. Suddenly (brave) I turn around and say:

—"Listen. You can tell your husband that I'm gay. You can pay me if every time you hear something about gays you think of me. OK?"

Back in the car: My God. I've never said anything like this before! Good thing she was a stranger. But then, I've never changed a tire on the Yolo Causeway before, during rush hour. Not in my high heels and leopard skin hat and purse...Nor for that matter, have I ever written a letter to the Editor of Mom...Gets What?

Sincerely,
D.T. Jaen

P.S.: The ending of this story isn't true (as you probably have guessed). I wish it was. ■

Wreck Room Gives Sacramento

Memorable Weekend

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my vibration of the experiences I have gone through the 4th July weekend. Sacramento celebrated the birth of our nation with out of town guests from Vancouver, B.C., Seattle, Washington, Los Angeles, and San Francisco for the Wreck Room's 2nd annual softball tournament. Many old friends plus many new friends entered our city for a fun filled weekend. The highlight of my weekend was Summerfest "82" at New Helvetia Park. The Wreck Room presented another of their extraordinary events. People came from Reno, Santa Barbara, Fresno, Modesto and Vallejo. This was a first for Sacramento. A recording personality was flown in to entertain at the midnight show — Debra DeJean. If you haven't heard her, watch out. There's a lot of dynamite encompassed in this petit little lady. As far as I'm concerned I want every record she has or ever will record. (Just a note, Barbara Striesand appeared at the Memorial Auditorium before she became a superstar).

The night included a fall Bar-B-Que chicken dinner, disco dancing by our on loan to Reno Wreck Room D.J. Jim Kiratia (he will be back in the fall) and an exhibition by The Capital City Squares dance group. The Monday following the tournament many enjoyed a leisure rafting trip down the American River. Of all the years I have spent and worked for the community of Sacramento, this has to be THE BIGGEST EVENT I have been involved in. Yet I have to say it is a shame that more of Sacramento did not support this "weekend to remember." If you missed it, sorry you don't have the memories. Please may I say—Let Sacramento get together. Come out and support our community efforts to have a good time and support the efforts of all the friends who try so hard. My heart-felt thanks to the Wreck Room family.

Love ya all
Digette ■

Commends Professionalism

Dear Editor:

It's a pleasure to renew my subscription! Please accept my thanks and congratulations for a job excellently done. It's fantastic to see the growth of our community so aptly exemplified by the increased professionalism of your newspaper. Please let all your committed staff know their work is not unnoticed.

Gracias!

Maria Hernandez ■

Court Approves Gay Adoption

A lower court order denying the adoption of a 43-year-old male by his 32-year-old male lover was reversed in the first appellate level decision on adoption between gay lovers by the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court.

In its July 8, 1982 decision, the Appellate Court, in a four to one decision, pointed out that "the parties herein do not seek the adoption in order to cultivate their sexual relationship. They wish to formalize themselves as a family unit, for the purposes of publicly acknowledging their emotional bond and more pragmatically to unify their property rights." The Court points out the benefits of family members being allowed for hospital visits or making crucial medical consent decisions.

The Court decision also states: "The 'nuclear family' arrangement is no longer the only model of family life in America...the best description of a family is a continuing relationship of love and care, and an assumption of responsibility for some other person."

Tim Sweeney, Executive Director of Lambda, the legal defense group which argued for this ruling, also pointed out that the decision to adopt between gay lovers is a very serious decision and should be undertaken only after careful thought and professional advice and counsel because "it is a permanent relationship which doesn't end if the lover relationship ends. It should be undertaken for psychological, emotional and financial reasons." ■

What's A Youth To Do?

Dear Editor:

I am a gay youth under 21 (over 18) and as such find little chance to socialize and meet others like myself. I am not a student (either high school or college) so those doors are shut to me. Unfortunately the churches have few or no youths and no planned activities/programs for them. So where does that leave me and mine?

A short while ago I heard, to my surprise and pleasure (which was short lived) that a local bar had "After Hours" on Friday/Saturday nights/mornings; serving coffee, soft drinks and "fellowship". I got dressed, and since there is no public transportation at 1:30 a.m., walked 25 blocks (one-way) to what I hoped would be a few enjoyable, care-free hours. To my surprise and disappointment I was informed at the door that one has to be over 21 to enter...

Hoping something can/will be done to help me and other gay youths to gain entry to social outlets in sedentary Sacramento.

Sincerely yours,
Douglas S. Fuller ■

Elderly Women-Oriented Women Have a Home

Dear Editor:

This letter is to tell you of our plans for a home for elderly women-oriented women.

We are a group of 21 living in community on a 144-acre dairy farm in the Green Mountains of northern Vermont. The nucleus of our group has been together for five years. Our mutual aim is to be consistently conscious and to live our highest values daily. Toward achieving that goal we work with a teacher utilizing a variety of methods but drawing heavily on G.I. Gurdjieff's "system of ideas".

We have just purchased a snug, comfortable, appealing house on the eastern edge of the farm (3-minute walk) that seems tailor-made for the dream we've had of providing a home of a vital nature in beautiful surroundings for elderly gay women. The house is

high, with wonderful light and a beautiful view from every window. We will provide rooms and meals and 24 hour assistance, as might be appropriate. Additionally, one of our members is an LPN and will be in residence. Among us we've had considerable experience in geriatrics.

Our farm and lands, which will be totally accessible to elderly residents, also include two other houses, a 40-acre woods with walking trails, a pristine camping area, streams, hayfields, pastures and several gardens. (We raise, in addition to cows, rabbits, turkeys and pigs.) We are just three miles from lovely Caspian Lake, and medical facilities are readily accessible.

Presently we are seeking three or four individuals who are nature-loving and interested in living a simple, wholesome life among compassionate and positive beings.

These residents may participate as fully or as minimally as they like in the life of the farm - manually, artistically or spiritually. At the moment we can facilitate the incapacitated but not the bed-ridden. While we are not invested in becoming wealthy, this endeavor will have to pay for itself. Fees will be negotiable.

If you know of any individuals or groups that might be interested in further information, or publications in which we might advertise, we would appreciate hearing from you.

Thank you and best wishes,
The Circle of Angels
At Walden Farm ■

Religion Series Praised for Insights

Dear Editor:

Thank you and Jill Kelly for the first two articles of your series "Gays and Religion." Many of us have become totally disillusioned with organized religion and its righteous definition of how God selectively loves us. For that reason, especially, it was great to learn more about the Dignity organization. Your interview with members of the local chapter indicate that at least these members, if not the whole group, have certainly integrated themselves as whole people (physical/

sexual with mental/spiritual/moral).

Congratulations and good luck in the future to Dignity, your series on religion, and to the rest of your fine paper.

George Clark
Sacramento ■

Chauvinism Can Be Reversed

Dear Editor:

A few weeks ago, I walked down to Capitol Avenue to witness Sacramento's Gay Parade. I was wearing a button depicting John Lennon and Yoko Ono. While standing on the outskirts of the crowd, a woman looked at my button and after a moment's pause, remarked, "That's Yoko Ono and what's his name."

All musical and political preferences aside, I ruminated on the implications of such a statement. Does this woman really believe what she said? And if so, doesn't this attitude sharply mirror the attitude of the most offensively typical chauvinist?

I cannot proclaim to be an authority on anything, much less on the political and historical struggle of the lesbian woman. I do feel, however, that the belief that lesbians shall forever be fundamentally separate from men is no less insidious than the rhetoric of, for example, the Moral Majority. In my opinion, both arguments in support of both premises are equally transparent; succeeding only in reflecting the movements' weakness rather than the movements' strength.

I suggest that there could be another approach. Civil Rights for homosexuals can only be truly realized when both sexes accept their differences of birth in order to work toward the greater purpose of educating and ultimately changing public opinion.

John Lennon was a good guy. He believed in peace, love and feminism. Let's not condemn him for simply being what he was...a man.

Sincerely,
Liz Cook ■

BEAKS

BY TOM CALENBERG



Felicia, how could you forget the extension cord at a time like this!

From the Inside Out

ET or GQ

Having recently viewed the highly acclaimed *ET*, many thoughts crossed my mind about this unusual creature. Here was this incredibly unsightly oddity, that under most circumstances would have made my hair stand on end and my flesh crawl; yet I found myself overwhelmed with compassion. *ET* was beautiful without physical beauty.

It is frightening to think about how much money we spend to have that "GQ" look and how much energy we expend to be seen at the "right places" with the "right people." Although *ET* is the extreme case of lack of physical attractiveness, it still makes one wonder where our priorities are. How many exceptional people have been rejected, based entirely on their looks, who may have that special beauty we find in *ET*? How many "beautiful" people are in fact "ugly" by the way they treat others with whom they come in contact?

Perhaps the rewards would be greater if we sought out and explored more of the inner beauty and concentrated less on our vanity. We should continue to care about how we look but within reason and with respect to others who may not share our same views of what is "tasteful" and what is not. In other words, more *ET* and less *GQ*! ■

Frank J. Lawrence

A VIEW FROM HERE

Good Day/Bad Day

by Richard Gray

Last Thursday I had an almost perfect day. Really very nice, almost perfect. Funny, though, it didn't include any of the things I might have thought would assure a day to remember. If on Wednesday you had asked me, "Richard, describe a perfect day, won't you?" I would have dipped deeply into some well of wishes and come up with a day full of accolades, or travel, or falling in love. Nothing of this nature happened on Thursday, nothing at all. But it was an almost perfect day, none-the-less.

It occurs to me that a perfect day is one which runs itself with a certain smoothness, if not efficiency. A perfect day can be almost

any kind of day as long as it moves along at a nice rhythm. A good day is one in which the things you have set about to do almost do themselves, and you, creator of that day as all others, are left only to play the part you had intended to from its inception. A bad day, well...

GOOD DAY — Wake up early, refreshed.

BAD DAY — Wake up 13 minutes before you have to be at work. You're on the sofa fully clothed from night previous. Dog has thrown up on shoes.

GOOD DAY — Extended, pampering bath and grooming.

BAD DAY — Wet hair with measuring cup of cold water over dirty dishes in kitchen sink, shave dry.

GOOD DAY — Small breakfast in front room.

BAD DAY — Eat Twinkie bought at corner store so they will give you change for bus.

Feminist Viewpoint

On Posters and Political Correctness

by Jill Kelly

I've always been glad that I don't live in Berkeley. The reason is that there are too many posters there. Every vertical surface in the city of Berkeley is plastered with posters, all screaming at you to join / attend / commit / experience some or another speaker/meeting/guru/workshop/rally that will open your mind/free your spirit/save your soul/improve the world. It's like having a million Sister Mary Ignatiuses jumping out at you from every tree and telephone pole, shouting their conflicting commandments.

I've always said that when you've got a town that's plastered with posters, you've got a politically correct town, and that kind of town makes me nervous. Berkeley, Boulder, Madison, and Cambridge are all politically correct towns. I've spent time in all of them, and I can tell you that printing and duplicating must be their number one industry. The

only difference among them is that Boulder is a **clean** politically correct town, where large fines are assessed to anyone who drops a staple or a shred of masking tape on the sidewalk.

I'd much rather live in Sacramento. The reason is that both political correctness and incorrectness are tolerated here. Take for instance our governor. Jerry Brown is probably one of the most politically correct and incorrect politicians alive today. He is into Zen, jogging, alternative energy sources and the Co-Evolution Quarterly. He is also capable of exquisite political about-faces on issues such as Prop 13, the medfly and Josette Mondonaro. Plus, his real home is L.A., which is the most politically incorrect place on earth.

In Sacramento, there's a greater tolerance for such inconsistencies. For example, you can shave your legs and still be allowed to play on a lesbian softball team. Hell, you don't even have to be lesbian to

play on a lesbian softball team, as long as you don't throw like a girl and you can find your way to Curtis Park.

In fact, things are pretty good here for lesbians who find it hard to be politically correct all the time. You can wear make-up, dresses and work for the state, and they'll still let you on the Gay Speakers Bureau. In fact, it's to your advantage — the GSB has been a bit skittish about crew-cuts and painters' pants on their female speakers. A discrete double-edged axe in 18 carat gold worn around the neck is O.K. — but please, no Lesbian Nation buttons allowed.

In Sacramento, you can attend a women's concert even if you're a man. Alix Dobkin crossed us off her list years ago. You can produce a play like "Dykes on Parade" that pokes fun at famous lesbians, and the handful of politically correct leafleters who protest the play will actually help ticket sales.

And, you can even make money and talk about it. You can invest your Christmas Club stash into a money market, you can go back to night school to get your MBA — you can even charge your lesbian sisters a competitive price for your carpentry, clerical or artistic services — and no one will take out a full-page ad in *Mom...Guess What!* to trash you. In fact, making money, which used to be the most politically incorrect thing you could do, is almost becoming correct. It isn't cheap to live in Curtis Park, after all.

But we need the Berkeleys and Boulders and Madisons to preserve their tradition of political correctness. In university communities, hatching and debating theories is a way of life. We've become used to looking to them for the latest thinking on international economics, energy conservation, biomedical engineering, as well as the potential value of sado-masochism between consenting lesbians, turkey baster babies made without the help of sperm, and the possibility that a person can call herself bisexual and not be merely chicken-hearted. These and other scintillating topics will enhance any dinner-table conversation, or can be broached with strangers as you wait for the fog to lift at Metro Airport.

But as my father would say, "You still have to get up and go to work in the morning," — if not to pay the mortgage on the house in Curtis Park, then at least to satisfy the landlord who owns yours and 14 other downtown apartment buildings. It takes a lot of energy to be politically correct, and damned if they don't go and change the rules on you every month.

That's why I'm glad I live in Sacramento. Not too many posters, close to the mountains, close to the city — all in all, not a bad place to get up in the morning.

GOOD DAY — Make two long distance phone calls, one personal, one business.

BAD DAY — Landlord calls to say they are showing your apartment to prospective buyers, and Sacramento Bee calls to say they will save a life in Cambodia if you will take paper for a month.

GOOD DAY — Write and post a letter.

BAD DAY — Searching for keys you discover red notice from phone company dated yesterday. Note also states payment office near your work has been moved to Florin Perkins Road.

GOOD DAY — Walk to bus stop just in time for bus.

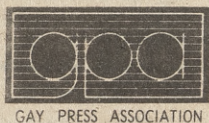
BAD DAY — Bus roars by while you are buying Twinkie in corner store. Next bus arrives late and the only seat is next to a man with a large oozing sore. Crazy woman behind you makes hissing noises like snake.

GOOD DAY — Work agrees cheerfully to let you clock out 45 minutes early to join friends at the movies.

BAD DAY — Management announces Corporate inspection at 11:30, fire co-worker for bad attitude, and requests that you take lunch break 15 minutes after you come in.

GOOD DAY — Customers are handsome, cheerful, and appreciative.

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BAD DAY — Only human contact of the day: four shoplifters, two with infants in strollers, and a huge man in a wheelchair who wants to try on bathing suits.

GOOD DAY — Easily catch bus to theatre where friends are waiting outside.

BAD DAY — R.T. has cut back evening service. You take taxi to theatre, driver is man with oozing sore. Film you thought you were seeing isn't playing. There is a note at the box office saying friends are inside. Doesn't say which theatre. There are three.

GOOD DAY — Movie is magnificent.

BAD DAY — Movie stinks, makes "The Fat Spy" with Phyllis Diller look like Citizen Kane. Couple behind you makes hissing noises, like snakes.

GOOD DAY — Friends drive you home, park car, you all walk for ice cream.

BAD DAY — Friends have huge fight about film, decide to divorce. You get out of car twelve blocks from home. Walking, you witness head-on collision in front of ice cream parlor.

GOOD DAY — Two letters in mailbox, one from friend, one from lover. Both speak warmly of the idea of marriage.

BAD DAY — Note from Landlord. Could they show your apartment again tomorrow? Seems dog threw up on prospective buyers' shoes.

Have a good day.

Affordable Legal Services Announced

RETAINER PLAN, an innovative step in legal services, was announced to the River City Business Association by local gay attorney, Philip Hoskins, in its most

recent bulletin. Hoskins, who until recently was in charge of directing Jacoby & Meyers offices throughout California, says that the plan is a way of obtaining legal services and information at a modest cost.

Included in the basic RETAINER PLAN fee are the following benefits: one simple will, two office consultations and unlimited telephone consultations. A reduced rate on all other legal services is also included in the annual fee of \$75.

"Most people do not have a way to get ordinary legal questions answered without spending at least \$25 on each occasion. This effectively prevents the average citizen from effective legal counsel when they need it," said Hoskins. He continued, "I think this lack of real access to lawyers has a lot to do with the rather negative image attorneys now have in the public's eyes."

Anyone interested in more information should call 444-9939. ■

Mom...Guess What!

N E W S P A P E R

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News Clips

by Richard La Voie

Washington Mayor Wants Black, Gay Unity

Mayor Marion Barry of Washington, D.C., told the 2nd annual convention of Black and White Men Together that he supports the unification of gays and 3rd world interest and admires the progress made in Washington in that area. In addition to Mayor Barry, delegates representing 1,400 international members of BWMT listened to speakers including Mel Boozer of the National Gay Task Force, Gay Rights National Lobby's Steve Endean, and Washington City Council member Hilda Mason. The convention passed resolutions condemning the Family Protection Act, Reagan's social service budget cuts, U.S. aid to South Africa, and a host of "isms". BWMT's next convention is scheduled for August, 1983 in Chicago.

Gay Photo Exhibit Wows France

"Homopolis", a photographic exhibition which showcases gay life in San Francisco, has drawn nearly 150,000 people during its run in Paris, France. Photographer Robert van der Hilst's work includes such images as gay cowboys dancing together, a lesbian wedding, and men dressed in black leather. The show has been reviewed and praised extensively in French, German, and Italian photo magazines and is scheduled to visit 10 more cities in France.

Gay City Workers Safe In Chicago

Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne has issued an executive order banning anti-gay discrimination in city employment, housing and services. The order, enacted in the midst of

Chicago's Gay Pride Week festivities, directly protects roughly 42,000 employees in 45 city departments, though it does not extend to the private sector. A similar order was issued by the Mayor of Boston.

Genital Surgeons Work Wonders

A team of four doctors has used flesh from an Argentine boy's foot and abdomen to create a new penis, replacing the one he lost when he was caught beneath a truck tire rim. The Argentine government paid his way to Eastern Virginia Medical School, where three surgeons and a microsurgeon fashioned the new penis. Doctors say the boy should be able to lead a near-normal sex life, but they will not know for sure how much sexual response he will have for 6-12 months. According to Paul Walker, San Francisco founder of a group which monitors genital reconstruction, the operation is the first of its kind. "It would be one heck of a medical advance" if the operation worked, says Walker.

Gay Killer Gets Off

William Tyack, 42-year-old owner of a Bakersfield tire store, was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the shooting deaths of two gay male neighbors. Tyack, who had a reputation for hating gays, once told an acquaintance, "I don't like those people. If they give me any reason, I'll kill them." Tyack was driving behind the two victims on a mountain road near their ranches when he rammed the men's pickup truck. The gay men and Tyack stopped, and in the ensuing confrontation, Tyack killed Jack Blankenship with a single shot. The other man, Sydney Wooster, was shot four times as he crawled away.

Gayellow Pages Available For Blind

Lambda Resource Center for the Blind recently issued Gayellow Pages No. 12 on cassette tapes for the blind and the physically challenged. The Chicago-based organization is offering the popular guide on seven NLS standard cassettes at cost, \$10.50. It will be labelled in braille or large print upon request. The tapes are "tone indexed" for faster usage. To order, call (312) 274-0510 or write LRCB, 3225 N. Sheffield Ave., Chicago, 60657.

Homophobia Appears in Russian River Area

A San Francisco gay man was attacked by two men in Guerneville Park (on the Russian River) as he walked alone to his weekend rental house one evening during the Memorial Day weekend. Joseph Evanko, 26, says there was no warning, no verbal assault, and no robbery included in the incident in which he was struck five or six times with a crowbar on his head, face and arms. Headlights from an oncoming car scared the assailants away, and Evanko, still conscious though blinded by blood, crossed the street to a phone booth, where he called the operator for assistance. He was taken to Palm Drive Hospital in Forestville, where he received 75 stitches to his head. Evanko said it was the first incident of its kind he'd ever heard of in the River area. He said he has been there often in the past and intends to return, though he plans to travel in groups of two or more, and advises others to do likewise.

Black Gay Church Formed In Windy City

Black lesbians and gay men in Chicago have announced plans to form a new church to fulfill a need not currently being met by the area's Metropolitan Community Church. Leaders of the new congregation say they have always been made to feel welcome at MCC, but many black gays say they miss the style of worship they grew up with in the black community. The formation of the church, which has not yet been named, was announced July 10 at a planning session on 3rd world issues sponsored by the National Coalition of Black Gays.

Tennis Star Called Bait For Lesbians

An item in a London tabloid led to an angry confrontation between 17-year-old tennis star Andrea Jaeger and her father, Roland. The item suggested that Andrea's "tomboy" ways had her father worried that lesbians of the tennis world would pay undue court to Andrea. The item further said that Roland Jaeger wanted his daughter to settle down with a "typical" clean-cut Florida boy-next-door". Mr. Jaeger denied the quotes, saying he was only worried that the tennis circuit kept his daughter from enjoying a normal home and social life. He said that lesbian "stuff" doesn't bother him "...Don't forget that we tried to hire Billie Jean King as (Andrea's) coach," Jaeger said.

Billie Jean's Husband Sues Her Former Lover

Billie Jean King's husband Larry filed a \$27.5 million lawsuit in June against his wife's former lover, Marilyn Barnett. The suit charges Barnett with "malicious prosecution" for her "palimony" suit against the tennis star last year. That lawsuit was dismissed by L.A. County Superior Court Judge Julius Title, who said it looked like "attempted extortion" to him.

Gay Resort Charges Anti-Gay Bias

The Russian River Lodge in Forestville has accused the local Board of Zoning Adjustments of anti-gay discrimination because the BZA refused to allow the Lodge to continue charging for day-use visitors. The Lodge operates an 8-room facility and 70 campsites for overnight visitors in addition to day-use facilities including a swimming pool and recreation area. The Lodge says 25 percent of its business comes from day-use visitors. However, locals have complained that day visitors create a hazard by parking across the busy River Road highway and crossing at will. The Board says the Lodge's septic system is not designed for the extra load caused by day visitors, and further charges that the Lodge was bussing people in from outlying areas for recreational purposes.

Gays Find New Archbishop "Approachable"

Catholic gays in Chicago, recently bereft at the loss of sympathetic Archbishop John Cody, are looking forward to an equally beneficial relationship with the Most Reverend Joseph L. Bernardine, who will take Cody's place as of August 25. Bernardine, currently an archbishop in Cincinnati, Ohio, has won the respect and admiration of the area's gay catholic Dignity organization. He has never had the opportunity to participate in a specific gay rights issue, but sources at Dignity say he has been privately supportive and open to discussion on the subject.

Los Angeles Helps Fund Gay Youth Project

The Los Angeles City Council has granted \$206,000 to the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center for use in purchasing and renovating property for the proposed Martel House, a licensed group home for lesbian and gay teenagers. The project is designed to help alleviate the problem of displaced gay teenagers in the area, a problem which has raised much controversy in recent years, particularly in Hollywood. Martel House will provide teens with a safe, supportive place to deal with their situation and straighten out their lives.

Preacher Draws Fire For Lesbian "Blessing"

A London minister, who says he once had a gay relationship as a teenager, blessed a lesbian couple in a ceremony in his church. The couple arrived in a Rolls Royce and exchanged rings in the church, receiving a formal blessing from the Reverend John Clowes. Bishop Derek Bond, Clowes's superior, has ordered a full investigation into Clowes's actions. Clowes may face defrocking as a result of the ceremony. ■

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Women's Music at Carnegie Hall

Meg Christian and Cris Williamson, two of the best selling artists in women's music, will perform together at Carnegie Hall on November 26, 1982, to celebrate Olivia Records ten-year anniversary. The two popular artists will present two shows at 7:00 and 10:00 p.m. which will be recorded

and released as a live album in early 1983.

The ten-year anniversary of Olivia Records, the largest women's recording company in the world, is an historic occasion for women's music; this marks a "coming of age" for a powerful genre of music that has been built over the last ten years from a grass roots following. Ten years ago, Olivia artists were performing in church basements, their records mostly publicized through word of mouth...today Olivia has grown to become a major independent label in the recording industry.

Early ticket purchases for this concert are strongly advised to ensure your seating choice as tickets are selling fast. For more information and to receive a ticket order form, please contact Olivia Records (415) 655-0364. ■

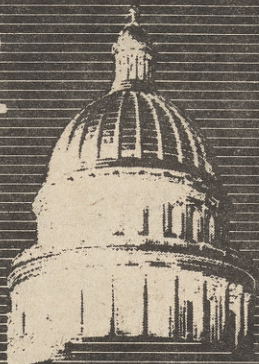
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UNDER THE DOME



Political Editor: Richard La Voie

Fund Helps Defeat Anti-Gay Candidates

by Richard LaVoie

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the first national gay political action committee of its kind, has won several victories in early congressional primaries this year.

The HRCF operates much like any political action committee. Its goals are to influence elections by financially helping gay rights supporters, both incumbent and non-incumbent, and also to help defeat anti-gay candidates.

On June 22, the fund reported significant victories by gay rights and privacy rights supporters across the country including Californians Marty Martinez and Esteban Torns; California Assemblymen Mel Levine and Howard Berman; and U.S. Senate Candidate Governor Jerry Brown. All have voiced support for gay rights; and all received contributions from the HRCF. Rep. Millicent Fenwick (R-NJ) and Rep. Tom Foglietta

(D-PA) also won hard-fought primary victories with aid from the fund, as did Democrats John Bryant and Ron Coleman of Texas.

Fund treasurer Steve Endean (who also serves as Executive Director for Gay Rights Nat'l Lobby) expresses optimism at the outcome of several primaries, and indicates that raising money to help our supporters and defeat our political enemies is the crucial issue this year.

"Candidates are coming to us now, listening to our concerns about individual rights," said Endean. "But...they need our help to defeat their well-financed New Right opponents."

Tax deductible contributions can be sent to the Human Rights Campaign Fund, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013. ■

New Right Amendment Fails In Senate

by Richard La Voie

A bizarre anti-gay amendment to an emergency appropriations measure surfaced recently in the U.S. Senate and almost immediately disappeared.

The amendment, sponsored by Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC), would have prohibited federal grants, loans, contracts, or other funds from going to any individual associated with the Communist Party, and any activity which "promotes homosexuality as an acceptable life style", which includes "gay theater or materials advocating violation of state laws". The amendment further denied funds for promoting teenage promiscuity, or anything which supports or refers to abortion.

The amendment to H.R. 5922,

an emergency appropriations measure, was found by Senate leadership to be "not germane".

Helms, an arch-conservative spokesperson for the New Right movement, proposed the amendment as part of a conservative effort to "de-fund" the political left in this country, of which the gay rights movement is seen as a part. Helms cited a CETA grant made a few years ago for "The Leaping Lesbian Follies" as a justification for the amendment's anti-gay language. Gay rights groups, including the Gay Rights National Lobby, pointed out that the amendment would have a tremendous impact on a wide range of gay and gay-supportive groups. ■

Union Endorses Gay Civil Rights Legislation

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ — The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) has overwhelmingly passed a resolution endorsing legislation at the local, state, and federal levels to secure the basic civil rights for this nation's lesbian and gay people. This precedent-setting effort was organized by the Gay Rights National Lobby.

AFSCME is the nation's largest public employee union with over 1.1 million members. It has long been a leader among unions on issues of social and economic justice. At its International Convention in 1980, AFSCME added "sexual orientation" to its non-discrimination statement for union membership, thereby encouraging participation of lesbians and gay men within the union. ■

Gay Rights National Lobby Announces Record Number of Co-Sponsors for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Five new co-sponsors of H.R. 1454, the national gay and lesbian civil rights bill, bring the total co-sponsorship to a record 59, shocking the political experts and Capitol Hill observers. The record co-sponsorship marks a sharp and unpredicted turn from about two years ago. When the 97th Congress opened in 1980, an atmosphere of political "gloom and doom" pervaded for those favoring social justice and individual rights issues.

Congressional lobbying of colleagues by Rep. Phil Burton appears to have played the central role in actually achieving the record co-sponsorship. ■

ACLU Sues for Gay Employee Rights

A secretary at Southern Pacific who was denied funeral leave when his lover of 11 years died is suing his employer in San Francisco Superior Court. He is being represented by the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California which argues that SP's denial of benefits is discriminatory under California statutory and constitutional law.

Lawrence Brinkin, a secretary/word processor with SP in San Francisco, lived with his male lover for 11 years. They were physically and emotionally intimate, shared finances, took their vacations together—in short, their living pattern followed those of married couples.

In June 1981, following a serious depression and illness, Brinkin's lover died. Brinkin requested three days funeral leave pursuant to Rule 67 of his union contract which states: "In the event of a death in the immediate family...an employee shall be entitled to a maximum of three days off with pay at the rate of the position last assigned."

SP denied Brinkin the leave, asserting that the policy only applied to "wife" or "husband."

Brinkin then turned to his union, the International Brotherhood of Railway, Airline, and Steamship Clerks, but the Brotherhood refused to pursue a grievance on his behalf.

The suit also names Brinkin's union as a defendant for negotiating the collective bargaining agreement containing the discriminatory funeral leave rule. ■

Booklet Shows Force of Gay Rights

by Richard La Voie

The National Gay Task Force recently published a booklet which shows, through quotes, policy statements, survey results and specific examples of positive gay rights progress, the impressively wide range of support gays have from "straight" society.

The booklet, entitled "Who's Behind The Gay Rights Movement?" is designed to show how the last 10 years of gay rights activism have drastically changed how most Americans, in all segments of society, feel and think about gay people and gay rights. The publication quotes from officials and official policy statements of dozens of major corporations (including AT&T, Union Carbide, and Citicorp), religions (the Ameri-

Gay Bill Scores Record Congressional Support

by Richard La Voie

Five more members of Congress have added their names to the national gay civil rights bill, H.R. 1454, bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 59, an all-time record for the bill.

The Gay Rights National Lobby called the development an "unprecedented turn", citing the dismal outlook for gay rights at the start of the 97th Congress. At that time, previous supporters of the bill backed away as Ronald Reagan and New Right legislators took up residence in Washington, partly through the efforts of such anti-gay political power-brokers as the Moral Majority, Inc. Fortunately, the media-hyped influence of the M.M. soon began to wane and, thanks to steady lobbying effort by GRNL, constituents, and Congressional friends, the national gay civil rights bill has more co-sponsors than at any other time.

The new co-sponsors of the bill (all Democrats) are: Daniel K. Akaka and Cecil Heftel of Hawaii; John F. Seiberling of Ohio; William J. Coyne, Pennsylvania; and James M. Shannon, Massachusetts, the only new co-sponsor who had supported the bill in the previous Congressional session.

GRNL Executive Director Steve Endean credits Rep. Phil Burton (D-S.F.) in large part for H.R. 1454's success. Burton worked

consistently with chief sponsors Ted Weiss and Henry Waxman to enlist support among Congressional colleagues. (Burton is now facing one of the biggest challenges of his career as State Senator Milton Marks, himself an avid gay rights proponent, seeks to take the Congressional seat Burton has held for several years.)

GRNL sources also cite constituent lobbying efforts, coordinated by GRNL field associates across the country, as a major force in getting co-sponsorship for the bill. In particular, face-to-face meetings between gays and their representatives have brought significant results.

GRNL's Co-Chairperson Kate McQueen compared H.R. 1454 to other public interest bills currently pending in Congress, pointing out that most have fewer co-sponsors than H.R. 1454. She said that even powerful labor unions often settle for fewer backers for their pet bills.

GRNL expects more co-sponsors to sign on before the year is out. In addition, massive grass-roots lobbying efforts are underway to ensure comparable co-sponsorship in the upcoming 98th Congress. (Those interested in joining this effort in the Sacramento area are urged to contact Richard at this paper at 456-5858. ■

can Catholic, Episcopal, Hebrew, Unitarian Universalist, and Lutheran churches, to name a few), professional and scientific organizations, and schools. It summarizes the editorial supportiveness of many newspapers, provides figures on public opinion from several opinion polls, states the pro-gay rights position of a wide range of political groups (the Democratic Party, for instance) and politicians (such as Senator Edward Kennedy) and documents the understanding of a host of civic leaders, respected public figures and celebrities.

The booklet is unique in its approach to measuring the success of the gay rights movement. It provides a concise overview of how

far politicking, rabble-raising and general hell-raising have taken the movement in the past 10 years. However, though it covers a great deal of ground in its 30 pages, it is only a partial listing of gay rights supporters. Resource material collected by NGTF and other activist groups on non-gay support for gay civil rights would fill a book of substantial size.

The booklet was intended to serve as a support document for gay activists in writing, lobbying and public speaking. Undoubtedly, it will be equally valuable in showing straights, and gays, how significant the gay rights movement really is. ■

Bill Threatens Gay Immigration Gains

by Richard La Voie

A provision of an Immigration Reform package now moving through Congress would prevent the courts from ruling on immigration exclusion clauses, including the anti-gay clause recently struck down by court action, the Gay Rights National Lobby has announced. If passed, the provision of the Simpson-Mazzoli Immigration Reform package (S. 2222 and H.R. 5872) would block the recent Gay Rights Advocates Court victory in the Carl Hill case.

The proposed legislation would have no effect on the criteria for deciding who can or cannot be excluded from entering the U.S. The exclusionary clauses now in existence would stand unchanged. However, the bill would prevent

any court from ruling on one of the exclusionary clauses. This would block such major court victories as GRA's Carl Hill case, in which a San Francisco court said Carl Hill, a gay man, cannot be excluded from the U.S. because of his sexuality.

According to Gay Rights National Lobby, the provision in question was suggested by the Cuban-Haitian refugee situation, not by any gay issue. Unfortunately, if passed, the measure would seriously affect gays' efforts to strike down the antiquated anti-gay immigration statute which has been in effect for many years.

The bill is still being heard in the House Judiciary Committee, though it probably will not move

further during the current session. GRNL has included defeat of this measure on its list of immigration-issue priorities, along with support for H.R. 3524, the Dixon-Beilenson bill, involvement in upcoming hearings in Congress on immigration reform, and monitoring amendments to do away with the out-dated anti-gay immigration statute. ■

Philip J. Hoskins

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Womyn's Church Offers Services

Sacramento's newly formed Womyn's Church is announcing an on-going series of womyn-oriented worship services specifically geared for womyn concerned with exploring and recentering their spiritual selves.

The group is facilitated by the Rev. Jean Hart, formerly of De Colores Metropolitan Community Church in the San Fernando Valley. She was founding Pastor of De Colores MCC, having built that church from its beginnings into a strong community of womyn worshipping together. Rev. Hart has had varied experience in the Sacramento area as well.

The Womyn's Church views itself as the processing of a dream of sacred space where womyn's inherent spiritual qualities and inter-connectedness with elemental power and spirit are recognized and nurtured. Other principles emphasized are mutual respect, the building of trust in one another and in community, and mutuality of the spiritual journey. The belief is that as womyn learn ways of integration from and with each other, wholeness and healing begin.

The Womyn's Church, offered as an alternative to the patriarchal religious system from which so many womyn have come, meets at 6 p.m. Sundays. For further details call Jean at 736-0113. ■

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Green Thumbin'

Summer Care for Your Garden

by David W. Black

This year's unusual spring and summer weather has created an abundance of havoc in everyone's gardening endeavors. Late spring rains and cool weather delayed our normal planting times. The high amounts of rainfall in a relatively short period of time literally drowned well established fruit trees in some areas. Poor fruit set, powdery mildew, heavy aphid infestations, and other disease and pest problems have been epidemic due to the late rains, relatively high humidity, moderate to extreme temperatures, and overcast days. Overall it has been costly to the farmers and frustrating for the home gardener.

Vegetable gardens in full swing need your attention now to insure some level of success. Fertilizing on a regular basis will help stimulate the sluggishly growing plants in your garden. If your tomatoes are not setting any fruit, try using a blossom set available at your garden center. Squash has not been performing as it should this year. Help Mother Nature by hand distributing the pollen with a Q-Tip from the male flowers of the squash to the female flowers.

Be alert for pest infestations, particularly aphids and white fly, and spray as directed by your local nurseryperson. If a whitish powdery material is on your roses, peach trees and grapes, the fungus "Powdery Mildew" is at work. Spray with a fungicide prescribed for this problem. If you have any doubt about the health of your plant, bring a specimen into your local nursery so the problem can be diagnosed. Tomorrow could be too late.

Established tomato, cucumbers, and melons do best with deep watering. Tomatoes send down deep, long tap roots and draw the water they need as they need it. Too frequent waterings encourage

growth at the expense of fruit production. Another procedure to encourage fruit production is to reduce vegetative growth by pinching out the growth that sprouts in the joint between the main stem and side branches.

Your cucumbers should be picked in an immature state, that is, before the fruit fully develops, if you desire crisp, mild-flavored slices. Fruits allowed to remain will cause the plants to stop producing.

Pole beans have not done so well this year due to the weather. Bush beans have been producing well in most areas. Keep the plants well picked to encourage them to bear longer and prevent the plants from putting all of their energy into bean seed production.

If you grow blackberries, cut off the old canes that bore this year's crop and loosely twine new growth onto the trellis for support.

Keep the weeds down — they are aggressive competitors for nutrients, water, space, and sunlight.

If you're going on vacation, be sure to prepare your garden for your absence by mulching, spraying for pests, and watering deeply. Better yet, get a garden sitter and write out the watering needs for the different areas of your garden.

Lawns should be mowed at a 2

inch height. Your lawn needs a total of 3 column inches of water a week spaced out at 2 to 3 intervals during the week. Insect and fungus problems are occurring in lawns. Be prepared by taking immediate action at the first sign of a change in appearance of your lawn. Don't apply a broadleaf herbicide for the control of your weeds in your lawn during hot days. The herbicide can burn your grass.

If you are considering the replacement of a tree and shrub in your landscape, or any additions, go ahead and do it if you must. Otherwise wait until the fall. Fall is the best planting season for most trees and shrubs.

Next month we'll tell you why, plus other bloomin' gardening ideas. Until then, enjoy the remainder of your summer.

Garden Lecture:

Interested in planting a winter vegetable garden? As part of the UC Master Gardener's summer lecture series, the subject "Winter Vegetable Gardening" will be discussed Aug. 12, Thursday, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Carmichael Recreation and Parks District Clubhouse, 7001 Fair Oaks Blvd., located in Carmichael Park. Admission is free, and everyone is welcome. ■

Coors Controversy Brews

by Phil Hoskins

The continuing Coors beer gay boycott controversy has touched the Russian River community. *The Paper*, a local river-area publication, reported that Coors has begun to court business in that area by giving "the royal treatment" to gay activist, Leonard Matlovich.

Matlovich, best known for his coming out while in the U.S. military, flew to Golden Colorado as a guest of Coors to talk with them about the boycott. Coors admits that it has poor sales in California, possibly because of the boycott by gays, feminists and unions. "We have been talking to Coors for the last two months to see what they can do to change their image in the gay community," Matlovich said. His connection with Coors has caused rumors to circulate in the gay community of a possible boycott of Matlovich's Russian River restaurant. "I'm not going to be threatened out of business," Matlovich said. "They're threatening the wrong person."

Coors has begun an extensive advertising campaign in gay oriented publications in recent years in an effort to combat persistent reports of anti-minority policies by the brewery. The family-run business is known to have made regular and substantial contributions to archconservative political causes such as the John Birch Society and anti-ERA groups. The Coors organization admits that its owners as individuals have conservative views and support them with contributions. But they have adamantly denied that these views affect their employment practices. They have, in the past, encouraged the press to speak with their employees, some of whom are gay, to verify their claims.

The Coors boycott is coordinated by Howard Wallace on behalf of the AFL-CIO. He said that Matlovich's claim that "half the S.F. gay bars serve Coors" is "bullshit". Wallace said Coors is staunchly anti-union and doubted its sincerity to gays. Matlovich said the courting of gays by Coors could alienate the straight market. "We haven't made any commitments to Coors yet. We're just talking."

Wallace and Tarii Osborn (West Coast Womens Music Festival) were interviewed about the Coors controversy by Mike Wallace of CBS 60 Minutes to be aired this fall. ■



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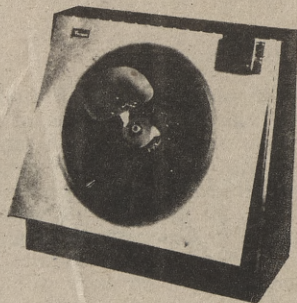


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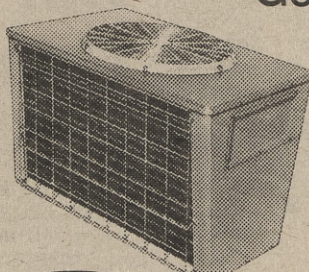
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Listen America by Rev. Jerry Falwell

Review and Comment
by Tom Lewis

Falwell redefines reality, truth, right and wrong, and "God's will" according to the gospel of Fundamentalist-Protestant Christianity and American political conservatism in this book. A self-proclaimed messenger of God's truth, Jerry Falwell's words betray his real nature and intent. Sounding much more like a hypocritical modern-day pharisee, the author's observations and conclusions are so harsh, judgemental, vitriolic, and devoid of love and compassion, they seem totally out of place for one who claims to worship and represent the Jesus of Nazareth, many of us know, admire, and respect.

Homosexuality: A Moral Cancer

The major thrust of this hate-filled book is a precise delineation of the moral cancers eating away at contemporary American society (according to the revelations of "St. Jerry F."). The author chooses to include homosexuality and its growing acceptance as a valid alternative lifestyle in this list.

Not unlike the other topics dealt with by Rev. Falwell, the discussion of homosexuality is narrow-minded, self-serving, prejudicial, and ludicrous at times, clearly revealing this man's diminished capacity for objective analysis and rational thought. His five-page discourse on homosexuality is rambling and incoherent.

Typical of all those cut out of the same cloth, Falwell claims to derive the basis of his arguments (including homosexuality) from "Holy Writ." With less than a dozen references on this topic in the entire Christian Bible (including both Old and New Testaments) to choose from, the Rev. Dr. Falwell jerks a select few verses out of context, distorts their meaning, and blows them all out of proportion. Falwell cannot resist citing the oft-quoted Old Testament passages condemning homosexual acts. Then, in the next breath, he points out that "We are no longer under that law because of Christ's sacrificial death on the cross for our sins."

The author goes on to reiterate all the myths and misconceptions about homosexuality we all know so very well. But, in doing so, he dares to imply that, more than just the considered opinions of one Jerry Falwell, these statements are the clear and revealed word of God.

Conclusion

The final statement by Falwell reveals the very real and intense paranoia felt by the Moral Majority and many other sincere Americans who think along similar lines. He falsely asserts that feelings of deep affection and sexual feelings for members of the

same sex are unnatural, perverted, and sinful in that they result from an exercise of free will and personal choice. He goes on to say, "We cannot allow homosexuality to be presented to our nation as an alternative life style as it will have a corrupting influence on our next generation."

If in fact Dr. Falwell and his followers do indeed take the scriptures literally and truly believe in their universal and eternal validity, may I close by reminding them of one Bible verse which, it seems to me, should relieve them of their unwarranted fear of homosexuals once and for all. "Train up your children in the way they should go and they will not depart from it." Believing this, perhaps paranoid fears and prejudices can melt away in favor of a courage of conviction that will enable our Fundamentalist and Conservative brothers and sisters to go about shaping their own individual destinies, while at the same time, allowing others to seek-out and follow the truths they must obey. For, after all, isn't this what America is all about? Isn't it time we demanded of this vocal segment in our society a greater degree of consistency between all their patriotic rhetoric and the day-to-day witness through the lives they lead?

Postscript: A Suggestion

It is not often that we, as individuals, can take some specific action which will, in a very concrete way, adversely affect large movements with which we sincerely disagree. I accidentally fell upon a way to do this to Mr. Falwell and his Moral Majority. On a TV special, Rev. Falwell offered to send an "American Survival Kit" consisting of two books and a parchment suitable for framing to anyone writing in, requesting it, and enclosing a contribution — *no matter how small the amount*. I made such a request, enclosed one penny, and received this package in a few weeks. Sending it had to cost Falwell and his people at least \$5. One of the books was *Listen America* by Falwell. Included was a "pitch" for more money and a postage-paid envelope. I sealed the empty envelope and mailed it in. That will cost them another quarter. Each week, thereafter, I have received another "pitch" for money with a self-addressed envelope enclosed. I seal it and mail it in. Who knows how long it will take their computer to discover what is going on?

Just think, if one million gay men and lesbians did this, we could clip the Moral Majority for five million dollars or more! The address is: Jerry Falwell, Lynchburg, Va. Send a penny and request the "America Survival Kit". ■

The "Dykes..." Are Returning

On August 20th and 21st, after its Bay Area tour, Sacramento's Le Theatre Lesbien will return with the production, "Dykes on Parade", a light-hearted satire of lesbian herstory and fashion. They will all be back: Gertrude Stein, Alice B. Toklas, Sappho, Colette; and with such archetypes as the 50's Bar Dyke, 60's Gym Teacher, and the 1980's Punk Dyke. "Dykes on Parade" will appear at the Sierra II Center for the performing arts, located at 2791 24th Street. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and the show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 12. Advance tickets may be purchased at Lioness Bookstore, 2104 Capitol Avenue and Northern Lights, 2425 J St.

"Dykes on Parade" will also appear at the Victoria Theatre in San Francisco, located at 2961 16th Street, between Mission and Van Ness on the dates of Aug. 6th and 7th. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Advance tickets are on sale in Sacramento at Lioness Bookstore. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m.

"Dykes on Parade" was created for the stage in 1976 by Cherie Gordon, Matrisha One Person, and Madame Swambi. "Dykes on Parade" played to full houses in Sacramento this May and Berkeley in June where it was enthusiastically received with standing ovations.

"Dykes on Parade" returns again, revised and re-written, and introducing the character, Natalie Barney who has been noted as "The Seductress of Paris". Written by Madame Swambi, a local ghost writer, directed by Cherie Gordon, and aided by a fine cast of actresses with some new additions in this production, "Dykes on Parade" promises to be more successful than its original. Critics from both the gay and straight press have called "Dykes on Parade" "...The most extraordinary event of the social (or anti-social) season"..."A remarkable production"..."and "one of the more innovative pieces of theatre to play Sacramento in a while." ■

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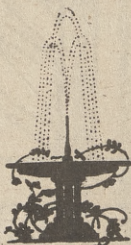
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The Last Mile: Running Is A Joy

by Joyce Bright

I took up running nearly three years ago for the best of reasons: My roommate, Judy, started running. Her activities always look significant. I hate to be left out of anything that looks significant.

However, I am not one to rush into an activity. Because her pace was faster than mine and I didn't want to hold her up, I would tell her to run on ahead. Blowing kisses to her as she rounded the first corner, I would then proceed to walk for 30 minutes or so. I had a lot to consider in these walks: Who needs to run? I'm healthy. My weight is just right. It's too hot. It's too cold. Would this new activity interfere with my smoking? At 32, it was a little late to think about being an athlete.

As we did our post-run stretching exercises and compared the joys of our new found sport, I could not help but notice the hypocrisy of my walks. I either had to find a new roommate or start running. (Judy was never one to stick with anything. Surely her enthusiasm would wane. Maybe she would discover the significance of bridge or some other sedentary sport.)

Within two months, Judy was off on her first fun run: The Turkey Trot. I was proud of her as I cheered from the sidelines. About the same time we went to Clarksburg to watch a 20 mile road race. Judy was so impressed that she decided this race would be her goal for next year. I groaned inwardly, and said something encouraging like, "um."

Her enthusiasm grew. Weren't the fall leaves beautiful to run in? Wasn't running in the rain refreshing? Wasn't spring exceptionally lovely this year? Oh, spare me! I hated it.

The American Heart Association had a fun run in May. Friends pledged so much money per mile, and I signed up for the six mile race. It was not a race for me. It

took me 65 minutes to finish. But at the finish line, I had a huge feeling of accomplishment. The letter I received from the Heart Association thanking me for my participation made me feel good.

In fact, I started to like running. I learned about discipline; that my life goes much more smoothly with self-imposed discipline added to it. I learned the joy of setting goals and seeing those goals reached. I learned to value my body and what it does for me. I gained a confidence I had not known since my early teens. I discovered a profound respect for those women who ran with me. I discovered a delicious freedom in giving my body up to the joyful solitude of early morning runs with its comfortable rhythmic breathings both within my body and within the morning itself.

Three of us trained for the Pepsi 20 mile race. For me, this run was about pain. I knew the effort would hurt. It did hurt. But for the first time in my life, I discovered that the fear of pain did not have to control me. I could endure. In the last five miles of that race, I found a place beyond pleasure and pain where laughter seems the only appropriate response to human endeavor.

Then last January four of us decided to run the Avon International Marathon for Women in June. A marathon is a 26 mile journey into physical endurance and mental power. One trains the body and mind to run — only to use up totally all that the body and mind can put together. It's an awesome achievement that any non-runner might consider insane.

When the four of us decided to run the Avon, our immediate project was proper training. We needed to increase our weekly mileage; 50 or 60 miles a week would be adequate. We needed one long run a week of 15 to 20 miles. We started weight training in order to balance and develop those other muscles in our bodies for the strength that would be required. Psychologically, we had to prepare our minds. We had to think like athletes.

The effort was all-consuming. Food and sleep and running were our main topics of conversation. Over a large pizza, we would discuss training schedules before shuffling off to bed at 9. Staying healthy was of such major importance that I immediately developed the first cold I had had in 20 years. No matter; the training went on. Fatigue constantly accompanied me.



Yet the obsession was a worthy one. Occasionally the desire to test oneself is irresistible. In the arena of sports the test is a clean and honest one. So suddenly my life was about overcoming self-doubts, about learning to trust myself and my friendships. This was an adventure into myself, and by extension, all selves. The marathon was about being the best I could be physically, and by extension, it was about being the best human being I could be. Ultimately it was about my commitment not just to running but to my life.

After the months of preparation, the marathon itself—the weekend of June 6th—seemed anti-climactic. The four of us reserved a room at the Hyatt Regency. The Hyatt was official race headquarters, and Avon had reserved a block of rooms at greatly reduced prices for race participants.

My initial fear was that my warm-up suit might not be appropriate Hyatt attire. I need not have worried. Entering the lobby, we saw women in a variety of running t-shirts and warm-up suits. I felt at home.

Like children at an amusement park for the first time, we spent the afternoon exploring the Hyatt. We rode the elevators and examined various views of the city. We got lost and ended up taking the fire escape to the rotating top floor bar. The new environment was sufficient diversion: I pushed to the deepest levels of my unconscious any notion that in less than 24 hours I must run 26 miles.

The banquet that evening was every runner's dream. The food was exceptional. Six or seven different pastries graced the dessert table alone. The coffee was great. Normally, I am just a trifle embarrassed about my appetite. But in this company of women, eating large heaping plates of food is a reflection of grim purpose.

The society of women was equal to the food. We dined with an enthusiastic, experienced group of women from the Santa Cruz area. We laughed a lot, compared training schedules, and discussed racing strategies. After dinner we adjourned to the lobby, where a Mexican soap opera was being filmed, and continued our discussion.

She who sleeps the night before a marathon is either very experienced or not at all serious. We were unexperienced and serious. So at 4 a.m. we dressed and wandered down to the coffee and

light refreshments Avon had provided in the lobby. To prevent chapping we applied vaseline to lips, thighs, and feet. We paced. We sat. Like some spaced-out zombies we withdrew into ourselves and concentrated.

At 6 the buses lined up to take us across town, over the Golden Gate, to the Vista Point starting line. I felt like a condemned person seeing the world for the last time. The morning was exquisite, the temperature perfect. Bands at the starting line played music while flags snapped in the light breeze. Seven hundred women jumped up and down in line waiting for one last journey into the portable toilets.

Ten minutes to race time. We took what looked like appropriate positions at the starting line, and then, too nervous to stand still, we moved to new positions. Looking for friends, we encouraged strangers. Excitement buzzed through the crowd. Helicopters whirled above us. Jumping, stretching, babbling — in the midst of hysteria, the gun went off. Like a herd of thoroughbreds, we bolted.

In fact, the mile and a half over the Golden Gate went too fast. The authorities had opened four lanes of the Golden Gate just for us — the first time the Golden Gate had been even partially closed to traffic except for two emergencies. In the perfection of the morning and the glory of the moment, we forgot about time.

At the two mile marker we were all a little startled to realize what a fast pace we had set. It was folly to run this fast so early. The next mile was downhill. It was impossible to slow down.

We ran 10 miles down Fisherman's Wharf and back. The vendors were just setting up for the day's tourists. Salt water and fish cut the clear air with pungent odors. The pace was insanely fast, and I felt foolishly free and happy.

Then came the Presidio. A mile and a half up hill. The hill was a sober shock, a reminder that we had many miles left to run. Even while I thrilled to the sight of the Pacific when rounding a bend, I knew I had to slow down. The next downhill mile tested my quadriceps. I was tiring.

At the 13 mile marker, half way into the race, I began to wonder why I was doing this. My friends, the marathoners, thought this was fun? Entering Golden Gate Park, I told myself that this was not fun. I heard the sound system at the Polo

Field announcing the course of the race, and I knew I could stop — just slip on over to the Polo Field — and no one would be the wiser. I did not know how I could run 11 more miles.

Panic would have been an altogether fitting response at this point. At 16 miles I swallowed down the tears of self-pity, and reminded myself that it was precisely for this I had trained. The body could do it: It was the mind that was playing tricks. All I had left to do was run up Sunset, dash around Lake Merced, and run back on Sunset. No problem.

Ha! The hills on Sunset felt like mountains. They were mountains. At the 18 mile marker I entered the loop around Lake Merced. I was on perfect pace. I also knew I could not keep it up. But if I could just get to the 20 mile marker on pace I would settle for that. I kept running. At 20 miles I was three minutes off pace, but I was 17 minutes faster than my time for the Pepsi 20 run a year and a half earlier.

I didn't know whether I was happy or sad. I walked the next mile. A sharp wind came up and blew dust into my contact lenses. It hurt my feelings. Women passed me. I was bone tired and cold. Skeet shooters defiled the morning air with "popping" explosions. I had five miles left to run, and if I didn't run them, no one else would run them for me.

Freshness was long gone. Joy and powerfulness exited to some limbo. Nothing was left but an emotional and physical numbness. The run back down Sunset, though only three miles, had no real distance about it.



At the 25 mile marker I woke up. How was I going to finish this last mile running? It was a matter of pride, as it is with all runners, that one runs the last mile. One does not walk across a finish line. But now, in Golden Gate Park, there were more hills. My lungs were tired of breathing. My hips and back were in pain. Pride forced one foot in front of the other.

I entered the Polo Field. Running the last quarter mile looked impossible. My form was shot, my body dead, my mind slobbered incoherently. Imitating a run, I crossed the finish.

I was handed my number, and I had enough competitiveness left to look down and register that out of nearly 700 runners I came in 433. It had taken me 10 minutes longer to run this race than I had planned.

As a man led me down the finish shoot, I felt a great sadness. A part of myself had died in the run, a part of myself that plays at being weak and small and not capable. Looking inward, I came face to face with an infinitely strong, almost brutal, survivor.

I was led to the end of the shoot. There a nice man kissed my sweaty face and placed a beautiful silver medal around my neck. The medal identifies me as a marathoner. I am proud of my accomplishment: I am humbled by the power within us all.

Yes, Judy, running is significant. ■

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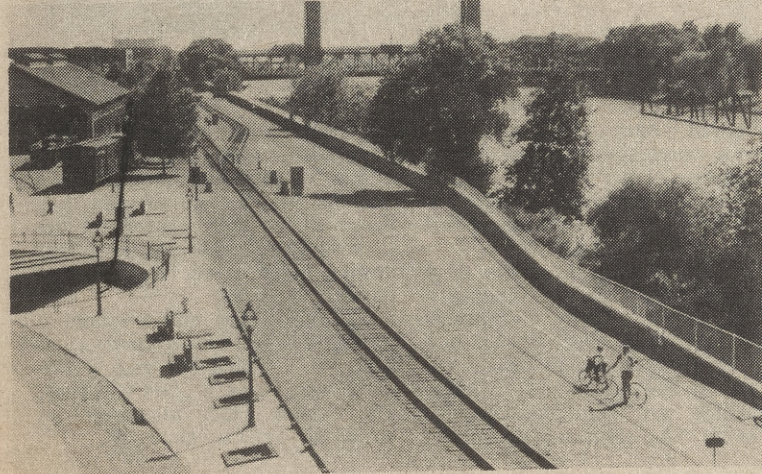
Reflections and Recollections of Delta Living

by Don Strick

Egypt has the Nile and Sacramento has both the Sacramento and American rivers which join forces to provide not only the economic backbone for the state, but variety in an otherwise homogeneous terrain and fabulous recreational opportunities. The list of recreational possibilities and facilities is too long to enumerate here, but I've selected a few highlights from my recent river experiences.

LOCKE

Locke was founded in 1912 by the Chinese laborers who worked on the levees in the Sacramento delta. Although it has been called Chinatown-on-the-delta, there is nothing to remotely suggest the congestion of San Francisco's Chinatown. In fact, aside from a few shopkeepers, you'll be lucky if you see any Chinese at all. The original laborers are for the most part dead, though a few remain; they shy away from the tourists but occasionally congregate on the streets for a smoke or to compare the day's catch from the river. Their descendants have long since fled to the urban centers of California. The remaining population (of a total of about 50) is non-indigenous.



The old wooden buildings with their posts and boardwalks are considered "Chinese architecture". Actually the town looks a bit like an abandoned movie set; the boardwalks are creaky and rotting and there is plenty of storefront property available for lease. The three streets of Locke are connected by some intriguing alleys where one can imagine shady opium deals taking place. (During prohibition Locke actually did have a fling with notoriety; it was a haven for drinking, gambling and prostitution).

A visit to the Locke Museum is a must. A curious collection awaits you — it is hard to tell where the official display ends and the leftovers from someone's attic begins. No rare vases from the Ming Dynasty here, but some rather cute dolls and bits of presidential campaign paraphernalia.

Then there is Locke's Star Theatre, literally a shell of its former self; it's a bridge of wood over an alley with the name "STAR THEATRE" but no evidence of a theatre; there isn't one. Locke additionally supports a few boutiques and curio shops. The only restaurant in town is Al-the-Wop's, which serves mixed drinks, steak with fried bread, peanut butter and jelly. It is a popular hangout for many miles around.

Only half an hour away, Locke is worth a visit; it's an anomaly. To reach Locke, take 160 south of Sacramento, which turns into a lovely levee road winding through typical delta scenery.

FREEPORT

Freeport is just south of Sacramento, accessible (unsurprisingly) by Freeport Boulevard. Though there's not much in the way of chic in this tiny 120-year-old town, Freeport is big on fishing and boating, as evidenced by the relatively huge size of the local marina and bait shop. It makes a great bicycle destination — in fact, plans are currently underway to extend Sacramento's bike trail down to Freeport.

We made the trip in a leisurely loop, starting out west of Freeport Boulevard through Land Park; once out of Sacramento, the traffic abates, and Freeport Boulevard becomes a good bike route.

The town is a good stopping point for lunch. The Freeport Cafe is fun — a meeting ground for the farmers of the area (who have recently been airing their gripes about the proposed Delta Shores Village development.) The cafe has a "down-home" atmosphere and the food is surprisingly tasty; the menu includes homemade soups



Prices are reasonable. Getting there is somewhat tricky because the roads are not always marked. Call them, though; they'll be happy to give directions.

BIKE TRAIL

This trail should make everyone proud to be a Sacramentan. It is extensive — connects Old Town to Nimbus Dam (25 miles) — and scenic, hugging the American River the entire way. The trail is paved and in good repair; (any potholes are clearly marked for repair with a big phosphorescent circle). There is a central dividing line due to traffic. You'll encounter folks from all walks of life: families, individuals of all races and sexual persuasions, groups of every kind. Unfortunately, there are those for whom the river is either home (derelicts, drunks) or hunting ground (muggers, rapists), so people are cautioned, women especially, to travel in pairs.

There are many points of access spaced at every few miles; many of these provide parking. At frequent intervals, the trail is punctuated by picnic tables, restrooms and drinking fountains. The trail connects all the major river parks of Sacramento. Because our valley is blessed (or cursed) with a tabletop terrain, this trail is a cyclist's delight — you can ride for miles without fatigue. But the trail is by no means limited to cyclists; it is teeming with joggers (what road isn't?) and also is host to non-athletic types such as bird watchers, insectologists and other nature aesthetes and romantics.

For more information, or maps of the trail, write to: Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, Office of Bicycle Facilities, P.O. Box 1499, Sacramento, CA 95807.

BEACHES AND PARKS

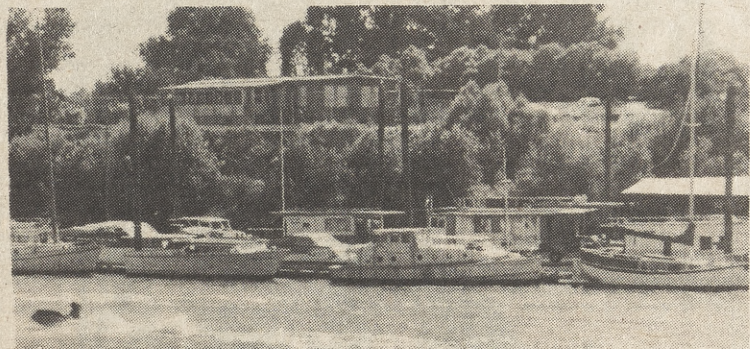
As mentioned above, the bike trail connects the major river parks of Sacramento. These include Discovery Park, Goethe Park, Ansel Hoffman, to name a few. Most charge \$2 a car for parking. Generally, the parks offer greenery, shade, picnic tables, nature trails and beaches. Some offer other diversions such as horseback riding. The beaches along the

American River tend to be pebbly, so you may want to wear your tennis shoes or Adidas. You swim at your own risk in the American — treacherous currents can suck the weak under, and the water is snowmelt — cold. (Not to be morbid or melodramatic, but so far this year there have been at least eight drownings). However, there are plenty of safe places to swim, and when the air scalds and the stones blister, the water rejuvenates.

There is a gay beach which you reach by following North 10th Street to the end. It's pleasant enough and nice to know it exists

There are several beaches; we went to Granite Beach which is one of the most popular. On weekends it is a family-style beach, the air smelling of a thousand barbecues, where teenagers bake to the beat of their radios and flirt and splash in the water. The sand is soft, the water excellent for swimming, devoid of currents and warmer than the river. The remoter eastern side of the lake probably has quieter beaches for those who like to avoid crowds.

But watch out for all the boats and skidoos (the latter are particularly noisy and offensive), who seem to have rights to every nook



but is far from my favorite spot on the River. But then in time everyone develops his/her own favorite spot; some tend towards those secluded spots that few people know about, and, to retain this seclusion, they keep it a closely guarded secret.



FOLSOM LAKE

Folsom Lake was created by damming the American River above the town of Folsom, 30 miles east of Sacramento. It is an impressive body of water several miles in diameter. Although the lake is only 466 feet in elevation, you get the feeling of being in the mountains because of the peaks beyond the eastern shore and because of a commanding view of the valley from the dam, which is just high enough to be above the smog.

and cranny of the lake. Then again, if you own a boat, this is the ideal spot to launch it.

RAFTING

The Ultimate River Experience, without which you do not qualify as a bona-fide Sacramentan. There are many places along the river to rent rafts. We got our 4-man raft from River Rat Rentals at 9840 Fair Oaks Blvd. We took two cars, parked one at Goethe Park, the other at the parking lot near River Rat. (Parking costs \$2 both places; the raft cost \$14).

It's a carnival on water in terms of sheer variety. The "flotillas" range from elaborate rafts accommodating 20 or more to inner tubes, canoes, and countless makeshift devices. One vessel was replete with colorful beach umbrella; another had a bicycle strapped to it. There were dozens of frog-men and women, and many people in wet suits. On weekends the river is like a freeway — or like bumper cars at an amusement park. People were basically friendly; the atmosphere was festive. Obnoxious elements such as drunken adolescents or blaring disco were inconspicuous.

Once you're on the river, lie back and relax. There's nothing like floating! If you bring beer, tie it along side of you and it'll stay cold. Swimming is invigorating, especially as a contrast to the 100° air. The scenery is lush, riparian habitat. At times it looks tropical, remote; you forget the suburban sprawl on either side of the banks. Be sure to bring plenty of sun oil and/or sun block because burning on the river is as easy as walking into the Queen's bedroom. ■

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Between The Covers: Book Reviews

The Nesting Place

by Sarah Aldridge, Naiad Press
Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee,
Florida 32302, 218 pages, \$6.95.

Reviewed by Joyce Bright

The Nesting Place is Sarah Aldridge in top form. I became so caught up in this romance that I stayed up past my bedtime one night just to find out who stole the Constable painting and who ended up with whom.

Claire is the wealthy scion of a very wealthy family married to her cousin Philip out of convenience. She oversees the family philanthropies. She arranges concerts for her grandmother's pianist protegee, Letty. Amid a lifetime of whirling social responsibilities, she seduces other women. She's a nice person.

Sabina, nearly autistic in her reticence — but then she had a childhood you wouldn't believe — is a divorced doctor. She is a workaholic, spending long hours in her clinic for wayward girls. The clinic is funded by Claire's family. Claire introduces Sabina to the joys of love and sex.

Letty is the sensitive pianist who has secluded herself in Philip and Claire's Florida estate. Letty refuses to leave the estate. Philip and his lover Gideon, who is the curator of the family art treasures, desperately want Letty to relocate so that they can turn the estate into a museum which can then be properly insured against thieves. Sabina visits the estate in order to draw Letty out.

This outline makes it sound as though The Nesting Place centers around the high soap escapades of



Sarah Aldridge, Author of The Nesting Place

the bored money class. (Most of us do not worry about having our art treasures stolen.) Yet the characters are so fairly drawn, it is difficult to find any real villains in this story.

The nominal theme of the story revolves around home, finding a nesting place. Claire's "Shore's Edge" retreat has been burned in a fire. Letty refuses to leave the estate of her childhood. Sabina, reflecting on her grandmother, thinks: "A respectable woman

belonged in her house. Her husband and children were her proper means for communication with the outside world, and if she had none, all the more reason for her to withdraw." But yet, is a true nesting place to be found in any physical location?

This novel has just a touch of tragedy and just enough mystery to keep you turning the pages. For those who enjoy a good romance, The Nesting Place will keep you riveted in your easy chair. ■

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Music Reviews

June Millington: She Proved Women Could Play Rock 'n' Roll; Now She Plays What She Wants

by Jim Fitzpatrick

When June Millington took the stage at the Palms Public Playhouse in Davis one Friday night in late June, her first sentence was "How many of you are missing your softball game?" The capacity crowd, composed mainly of lesbians, gave an appreciative laugh and the show began. Appearing with sister Jean and brother Scott for the first time ever, Millington's performance was a pleasant, relaxed and musically compelling showcase of rock, blues and women's music.

With the crowd alternately singing and playing instruments handed to them after a 15 minute intermission, Millington left no question about her abilities to entertain, play guitar and sing.

Born in the Philippines, Millington, who counts Stevie Wonder and Laura Nyro among her most influential musicians, began playing music at 13. She and her sister organized the all-woman band Svelts while attending McClatchy High School, and later, Wild Honey. But she is perhaps best known for her years with Fanny, a pioneering women's rock 'n' roll band that became the first to reach national prominence. The evening before her Davis performance, Mom...Guess What! discussed with June her years with Fanny, her music and her philosophies about life in general.

MGW: What was life in the Philippines like for you?

JM: It's culturally very different. The whole area was oppressive, in terms of being predominantly Catholic. Girls and women are in traditional, very stereotyped rolls, especially since the Spaniards are there. So it has this sort of macho Latin feel to it that I found really uncomfortable when I was young. I didn't know what I felt except that I wanted to get out of there. The Philippines are very musical people, though, and it runs in our family.

MGW: Tell us about Fanny.

JM: What do you want to know?

MGW: The music.

JM: It doesn't matter. Fanny's function was just to prove that girls could play rock 'n' roll. To prove that they could play like guys. Once we proved that point, it was kind of superfluous.

MGW: Don't you feel Fanny was important for women in rock?

JM: It was really important, but I left because I didn't want to play just rock 'n' roll anymore.

MGW: Your music today is quite a bit different from Fanny's.

JM: Yes, I'm very eclectic in my taste. I didn't want to be straight jacketed into proving and reproving that girls could play like men. After a while, it's like "so what?" Why don't we play what we feel? My whole approach to music is a little bit more holistic now.

MGW: Heartsong, your first solo album, seems to have quite a lot of religious overtones. Is this indicative of your own beliefs?

JM: I'm very spiritual. There's an awful lot of reference to the spiritual world (in the album). For instance, the line "Tell them that we want to take you home," in "Tell Them." Home to me is the

inner dwelling of the constant — the constant which is the soul. I've checked out a lot of different paths, and the one that seems to work for me is Tibetan Buddhism. I'm very much influenced by Oriental philosophy — the whole thing of Maya, of illusion, non attachment, of rising above this physical plain and looking at what's really important. It's at the point where my number one priority is to be a good human being. From that, everything else flows. If you really try to be kind, compassionate, to go for unconditional love, that's the hardest thing. A lot of it is working on yourself, because you can't care about other people until you've broken down your own barriers and defenses. And that relates to my music, especially in songwriting, because often it's not just the discipline of being a good musician or songwriter. A lot of it is keeping my channels open, to let those inner messages come through.

MGW: Have you accomplished this?

JM: More and more. For example, I used to have a terrible time performing and relating to the audience because I was afraid, really shy. But because of this, I've overcome it.

MGW: You've had an extensive musical past. You've shared the bill with people like Van Morrison, The Kinks, Bonnie Raitt, Chicago. Do you ever have dreams of becoming a pop star?

JM: I'd like very much to be in the mainstream — to have people from all walks of life listen to and enjoy my music — hopefully like it enough to go out and buy the album so I can continue to do the work. Whether or not I want to be a pop star per se, with all its ramifications, I don't think I ever could just want to be a star and have money and that type of success just on that level. I would hope that would happen in such a way that I could share the money with people who need it, with worthwhile projects. Just doing the music itself, I think, is an important effort. But it does need a lot of energy and money to sustain it.

MGW: How do people react to your philosophies and music?

JM: Differently. Some people aren't educated enough. It's too subtle for them. I get this reaction of "Well, she's capable of doing so much more. Why isn't she rocking out?" But I've also heard people cry when I sing "Keep Me Anymore."

MGW: Your music is generally considered to be "women's music." Can you define the term?

JM: (laughs) That's very difficult to do. I think what makes the genre different is that it represents a certain subculture. There's a kind of spiritual consciousness, and the lyrics are non-racist and non-sexist.

June Millington is currently soliciting funding for her next album. Contributions, fund raising ideas and assistance would be appreciated. Write to Fabulous Records, A subsidiary of Olivia Records, 4400 Market Street, Oakland, CA 94698. Millington's LP Heartsong may also be ordered through this address. ■

Record Reviews

Fleetwood Mac's "Mirage". A Record that Disappoints More Than Delights

by Jim Fitzpatrick

In the three years since Fleetwood Mac's last studio album, Tusk, three members of the band have released solo albums. Consequently, it's no surprise that the Mac's latest, *Mirage*, is a disjointed, unenthusiastic LP. Although several songs on the LP still capture the magic that made Fleetwood Mac the premier American band of the 70's, more often than not, they are dull and lifeless.

Stevie Nicks' "That's Alright", for instance, is a weak attempt at country crooning a la Rosanne Cash. Yet Nicks lacks the warmth and feel for the genre that is Cash's trademark. And in "Gypsy," Nicks continues her annoying tradition of air-head philosophizing:

*And it all comes down to you
Well, you know that it does
Well, lightning strikes,
maybe once, maybe twice
Ah, and it lights up the night.*

It's meaningless lyrics like these that marred so much of Nicks' solo LP, *Bella Donna*, and sadly, are continued on *Mirage*.

Even Christine McVie and Lindsey Buckingham, who consistently have been the most innovative and musically compelling members of the group, have turned up some real dogs. Perhaps outside influences are part of the reasons for this. For the first time since the current incarnation of the band released its first LP, *Fleetwood Mac*, in 1975, McVie and Buckingham have co-written songs with nonmembers of the band; 4 strangers, to be exact. Undoubtedly, these composers and lyricists are responsible for part of *Mirage's* flaws. But not entirely. Buckingham's "Book of Love" is simply one of the album's most boring numbers. And McVie's "Only Over You", while lyrically as sentimental as anything she has ever written, is sung with such detachment, you wonder if she was thinking about her royalty check rather than the object of her lyrical obsession.

Still, *Mirage* does have some high points. Among them is the first single from the LP, "Hold Me", a bouncy, spirited song as good as any of Mac's pop standards. "Love In Store," perhaps the album's best cut, is right out of *Rumours*. But for the most part, it sounds as if Fleetwood Mac is a band whose members have made a

final effort to work together. I may be wrong, but I doubt if there will be many, if any, more Fleetwood Mac studio albums after *Mirage*.

The best song I've heard this year is a cut from Donna Summer's new LP. Written by Bruce Springsteen, "Protection" is an incredible song that says everything there is to say about the confusion and turmoil of new found love. Lyrically and musically compelling, this bit of disco-rock is one of the most danceable songs I've ever heard. The song's only flaw is that at three and a half minutes, it's much too short.

In celebration of Olivia Records tenth anniversary, Meg Christian and Chris Williamson will be performing together at Carnegie Hall, November 26. The concert will be recorded live. For ticket information, write to Olivia Records, Dept. CH 4400 Market St., Oakland, CA 94608

FOR THE RECORD TOP FIVE


1. "Protection," Donna Summer (from *Donna Summer*, Geffen)
2. "Master Piece," Gazebo (II Disc 8 12-inch import)
3. "I Like Plastic," Marsha Raven (Red Bus 12-inch import)
4. *Face to Face*, Gino Soccio (RFC /Atlantic)
5. "Do Ya Wanna Funk", Patrick Cowley and Sylvester (Megatone 12-inch) ■

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Schooner's, 2730 N St., Sacramento, Calif. 95816. 452-7427. Open every day. Visa, M/C, Am. Ex., Reservations advised.

A school of fish restaurants has quietly glided into Sacramento. Schooner's is one of the better ones, pleasantly understated in both its cuisine and its decor. It has already carved a competent niche in Sacramento.

The decor is vaguely high tech, with industrial and high fashion light fixtures, polished steel and dark wood, glass and chrome. Windows in the building's vaulted arched walls let in light from outside during the day and early evening.

The menu is not long, including soups and salads, a number of broiled fish dishes, spare ribs as a specialty, and a couple of desserts.

Two soups are offered with dinners. Clam chowder, redolent with generous small bits of clam and savory aroma, has nicely soft but not mushy chunks of carrot, potato, and celery. Onion isn't too apparent, and as a result the chowder isn't too sweet.

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Dinner salads are respectable and neatly presented. Several kinds of leaf lettuce provide a pleasant background to a couple of slices of cucumber and tomato. A house dressing is thick, creamy, flecked with herbs and perhaps just a whisper of garlic.

Fish restaurants should provide the best available. Schooner's tries to do this by having the catch of the day on the menu charcoal grilled. The method remains, but the fish and price change day by day.

Recently, a thrasher shark steak had been broiled over charcoal. It was moist and tender, firm and white. Presentation was simple and attractive. A broiled salmon steak was similarly presented and prepared. The salmon, a relatively strong flavored fish, benefited greatly with melted butter.

Canneloni stuffed with shrimp and crab and spinach were drenched with a picquant tomato

based sauce. Though the strong flavor of the crab permeated the delicate crepes, the spinach had cooked too long and was too salty besides.

Back ribs — barbecued pork spare ribs — are noted on the menu as a specialty. They proved to be excellent, a rack of six or eight meaty ribs, which had been frequently basted with a fine, intensely flavored sauce. It had sunk into the meat and formed the thinnest, shiny and crisp crust on the surface. The meat was so tender it almost fell off the bones with a single look. The only serious omission from this admirable dish was the lack of a fingerbowl with lemon or a hot napkin. After all, it's impossible to eat ribs except with fingers and would be nice to be able to degrease them without a trip to the restroom.

Main courses are garnished with a vegetable that changes daily. One night, steamed but still crunchy and colorful carrots and zucchini sprinkled with sauteed herbs were savory and pleasing. Another night, a cream sauce covered carrots, broccoli, and onions that had been cooked far too long.

Desserts are few and simple. As an example, a chocolate cheese

cake was refreshing and cool, topped with whipped cream and a single strawberry. It wasn't cloyingly sweet, the chocolate was pleasingly strong, but it didn't have quite enough bitterness for my taste.

The wine list, predictably, is stronger in whites than reds. The cellar is intelligently chosen, with particular attention to the wines of local vineyards. Therefore, there are some reasonably priced and pleasant tasting Chenin Blancs from the Delta. Napa is not unrepresented either. Wines are generally reasonably priced for a restaurant.

Service is adequate, though not memorable. It's usually relatively slow, though there are exceptions. It is uniformly friendly and helpful. Even on nights when the restaurant is less than full, sometimes the dawdling time waiting for service can get wearing unless you've lots to talk about with your companions.

A complete dinner, including a dessert, modest wine, tax and tip will cost between \$12 and \$16 per person. For that, you'll get an understated but quite pleasant meal. ■

The Closet Gourmet

by Robert Salgado

Now that summer has set in, temperatures are at their highest, and energy is at its lowest, you're tired and don't feel like cooking. As you look out into the back yard, you can't help but be lured by the cool breeze sweeping across the lawn. So inviting is the shade under that huge tree, you can actually see yourself sitting under it enjoying a tall cool drink. SOUNDS WONDERFUL!! LET'S EAT.

Cooking outdoors on a grill can be a fun way to entertain. Think of safety first, and the day will be as safe as it is enjoyable. Line your grill with foil; it'll reflect the heat and speed up cooking time. To start the fire quickly, push the coals into a pyramid, and use charcoal lighter fluid to start them. NEVER NEVER use anything else, least you become one of those

wonderful statistics...

Now here's the hard part: WAIT TIL THE COALS ARE READY!! If cooking in the daytime, the coals will be a grey ash color; if in the evening, the color will show up as a red glow. Spread the coals into a single layer in grill before placing food on.

Flare-ups may occur when cooking fatty meats. To minimize this problem, tip the rack slightly to drain off juices. To put out a flare-up, remove food and lightly mist the coals with water.

An easy and attractive dish to serve friends:

SKEWERED BEEF BUNDLES

½ c. soy sauce
2 Tbsp sugar
¼ Tsp ground ginger
1 lb beef round tip steak, cut into thin strips
½ lb fresh, whole, green peppers
4 lg. carrots, cut into 3 in. strips
2 Tbls butter, melted

Mix soy sauce, sugar and ginger. Cut steak into thin strips, add to mixture. Cover and marinate 2 to 3 hrs. at room temperature, stir occasionally. Cook beans and

carrots in separate pans in salted water, when barely tender, drain well and cool. Wrap half the strips around carrots and the other half around the green beans in bundles of four. Secure with toothpicks and place on two long skewers. Grill over medium coals for approx. 4 min. Butter them once or twice as they cook.

Serve with a fresh green salad and maybe a little wild rice with mushrooms. ENJOY! ■

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Sexuality, Science, and Society

Lesbian Mothers and Gay Fathers: Coming Out As A Parent

by Greg Herek

Coming out can be particularly difficult for lesbian mothers and gay fathers. It is difficult for everyone to feel completely positive about themselves while still in the closet, but revealing their homosexuality carries many extra risks for lesbian and gay parents. Like the rest of us, they risk losing the love and support of parents, siblings, friends, and colleagues. But they also stand to lose the affection of spouse and children and the relative security offered by their married lifestyle. Many times they also face the prospect of being forcibly separated from their children in what our legal system supposes to be the "best interests" of the latter.

Once a parent decides to come out to her or his children, what is likely to happen? What can be done to make things easier? I haven't yet found any systematic studies of self-disclosure by lesbian mothers, but two separate researchers have explored this topic with gay fathers. Frederick Bozett and Brian Miller each interviewed gay men about their coming out experiences with their children. Despite the considerable differences between the experiences of fathers and mothers (whether gay or straight), some of Miller's and Bozett's findings are relevant to all lesbian and gay parents.

Because the parent-child relationship may be the most permanent one experienced in adult life, nondisclosure often leads to psychological discomfort. It can communicate to a child that her or his parent feels somehow ashamed. It also inhibits the development of an expressive relationship by creating a psychological distance between parent and child.

But disclosure can actually increase communication and enhance expressiveness in the relationship. It creates greater openness and allows a parent to take her or his children into the lesbian and gay social world, both literally and figuratively. In Bozett's and Miller's studies, respondents who had come out felt that their father identity was very important. They desired to disclose their sexual orientation to their children because of their feelings of closeness to them. Fathers who spent a large amount of time with their children felt a need to disclose both because of the practical difficulties of hiding their homosexuality and because of the psychological stress it created.

The work of preparing to disclose one's homosexuality to children often starts in their early childhood. Gay parents frequently raise their children to tolerate diversity early in life. They may then gradually introduce their children to homosexuality, perhaps simply by deciding to behave

normally in their presence: by showing open affection (though not sexual) with one's partner, by leaving gay newspapers unhidden so that children may view them at their own discretion, or by taking children to gay social events (for example, a gay restaurant or a Gay Freedom Day parade). Brian Miller found that this kind of gradual introduction led to the greatest acceptance by children of their parent's sexuality.

Frederick Bozett found that parents often directly acknowledge their homosexuality (verbally) to their children in the context of some other important event, such as explaining the reasons for a divorce or telling the child about a committed relationship that is developing with a lover. In either case, fathers found their children's reactions to be almost uniformly more positive than they had expected. Daughters seemed to have the easiest time accepting their father's homosexuality, followed by sons. Wives frequently evidenced the most difficulty of any family member.

When children had initially negative reactions, Bozett and Miller found that it stemmed from many different sources. Some resented their father's hesitation in disclosing, others resented having to see their father as a sexual being. One son felt threatened because he was confused about his own sexuality at the time. One daughter feared she would be "replaced" by her father's lover. For most of these children, their initial negative reaction turned to positive, and their relationships with fathers improved after disclosure.

After a parent comes out, it is still necessary to protect children from the hostility of others. The fathers interviewed by Bozett and Miller took care to be discrete around their children's friends, and they cautioned their children to be careful in revealing that their father is gay. Some even arranged for their children to attend school in another neighborhood so they would have two sets of friends. If the father's gay identity led to ostracism from one group, the child would not be totally isolated.

Of course, not all parents come out to their children. Fear of the children's negative reaction and possible rejection, fear of an ex-spouse's vindictiveness, fear of losing custody or visitation rights, and negative feelings about one's own homosexuality are major reasons for nondisclosure. Miller discovered that this may have

negative consequences for a gay father. Sometimes he becomes an overindulgent "Santa Claus" type who tries to buy his children's affections with extravagant gifts. Also, when a person lives a double life by hiding her or his homosexuality from spouse and children, it takes extra time. This means less time to spend with the children and can damage the parent-child relationship.

Miller found that the openly gay fathers in his sample were more self-accepting and did not feel a need to buy off their children. They also spent more time with their children because their social worlds were better integrated. And the openly gay fathers tended to be less authoritarian and used less physical punishment than did closeted gay fathers. The former also more often tried to raise their children in a nonsexist atmosphere with egalitarian values.

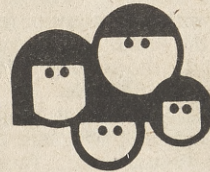
Coming out to one's children is a big step. Each parent must decide if and when to do it, and then how to do it. If you are considering coming out to your children, you may find it helpful to read Frederick Bozett's article in the journal *Family Relations* (1980, v. 29, pp. 173-9), and Brian Miller's articles in *The Family Coordinator* (1979, v. 28, October, pp. 544-52) and the *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* (July, 1981, v. 51, pp. 552-9). There are also at least two books that offer useful advice and anecdotes to parents who are coming out: *Loving Someone Gay* by Don Clark, and *Lesbian/Woman* by Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon. ■

Performing Arts Group Receives Donation from Vodka Importers

San Francisco—Golden Gate Performing Arts (GGPA) has received a \$5,000 donation from Carillon Importers, Ltd., the exclusive U.S. importers of Absolut Vodka from Sweden. The donation marks the first instance of significant corporate funding of a lesbian and gay arts organization.

Golden Gate Performing Arts is a non-profit San Francisco organization whose purpose is to support the arts in the lesbian and gay community and whose performing groups include the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus — the "Mixed" Chorus. ■

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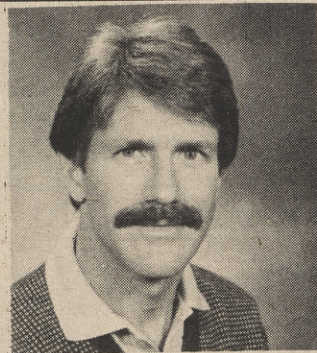
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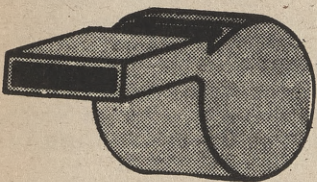


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That Is Which Is

You are about to receive the secret of how everything works. That's how my guru used to get my attention when, many years ago, I was a seeker of truth. After that, it was a bout with EST, just to make sure that I hadn't heard it wrong from my Indian sage.

Sure enough, everything points to one simple truism no matter in what language or by what ritual it is expressed. That is which is.

Now I know that you don't need me to point this out to you; we all know that. But how does it affect what we do today? Just how useful are eternal truths, anyway?

Well, let's see. That is which is. That makes everything else what is not. Even that which we are trying to do is not done until actually done. So much for brownie points and A for effort. All those who are hoping for credit in heaven for your sincere desire to do good deeds are in for a big shock. No credit in heaven. That's right, only barter. Not even cash will do, especially from some nearly bankrupt government's promise to pay later, in more cash. No sir, heaven is an all-barter system.

Credit is given only to those who can point to deeds done. And then it is only good for long enough to do another. You can't even save it up for later, or get power through wealth. No, what is done disappears fast in heaven, for heaven is already caught up in what is now, in that instant after what was done before. It is, however limiting, a very efficient set-up. No waste. No needs. Except, of course, if that is what is.

But, I hear the thinker protest, that is just circular b.s. What good does it do to know that when I see my lover flirt at the Club 21? I know what is. I want to change what is. Just how does this cute little "truth" help me change things?

Well, it doesn't. Nothing does. Things change when they do. Trying doesn't change things. Not trying and flowing with the flow doesn't do it either. Only change itself brings change. Things are different when they are different.

Lovers are faithful when they are faithful and not when they aren't. If that is important to you, you had best ignore all promises of change and summaries of noble efforts at trying to stay out of the bushes, baths or bars, whatever your pet peeve may be. Trying is merely a way of covering up for the fact that you aren't. Try to pick up a glass of water. As soon as that glass leaves the surface it rested upon, you did more than try — you did lift it.

Of all the mental camouflage created by humankind over the eons, trying is probably the most convincing and commonly used. I'm sorry I didn't make the meeting. I tried real hard but... A lot of good the trying does to the others who made a commitment to attend and did attend.

Commitment. What a curious turn in our society is revealed by this word. One can commit oneself to someone or a particular action. One can also be committed, as in mental hospital. What was once a word disclosing a key to the use of that old basic truism we started with has become the very opposite.

The meaning has gone from a description of an internal state of being to a process by which we are robbed of the ability to commit ourselves to anything.

Another theorem of human behavior is that commitment brings results. This is often seen as trying, but close examination discloses that there is no relationship.

Commitment is a state in itself. Sort of as if it is a mental state parallel to a possible physical state. Before the holy ritual of change can occur, there must be commitment to the after-change state. While in the state of commitment, one draws pictures of the future state and sees how it is then. Not how it will be. No one can see that. But you and I can see a present picture of a future condition. The better our focus, the more frequently the picture appears on our mental screens, the more likely our vision is accurate and what we see actually comes to be.

This is not trying. While committed, we actually are what we are, and we know it. If our actual behavior is different from the pictured condition, we acknowledge this fact and return to focus. Or we don't. Either way, the difference is clear to us and, when everything is just right, the difference doesn't even matter. We are committed to this future action, or plan, or person. That is the point at which we continually return for our focus. It is the guide for our choices. Not a guarantee of "success", just a guide, a point of reference.

People without commitments are observably different from those with them. The practice of commitment, by whatever name you may know it, is one of the acquired abilities which have made civilization possible. Without commitment, we have transitory, haphazard life patterns which never seem to bring any satisfaction. Things would be fine if we had less mental ability. Rutting about and building sand castles at low tide seem satisfying if you can't imagine any tomorrow.

To those who look to time as a string of beads of accomplishments, however, commitment brings satisfaction. It makes possible both the concept and the reality of "stringing" actions and events together to produce a result. Commitment is what brings satisfaction to lovers; it can carry you through the rough times, the boring times, and yes, even the horny times. Commitment is what gets you to that boring meeting which you know won't produce a community center. It gets you there because you know that you don't know anything else more likely to produce a community center. Of course, you could try to go. Or, you could rationalize not going — that group doesn't do anything, it's boring, I have other things more important. . .

Ah, but add commitment to rationalization, and you get clarity! Commitment says you

started on a course of action, and you intend to pursue it until the conclusion, for only then will you know if it works or not. At no point before there is a community center will you know how to get one. All that can be done is what there is to do today. Step one, step two, etc., until the picture is complete and the center exists.

Impatience, the spurs used by those who try to prove to themselves they are still alive, can wear at commitment. Impatience, based upon time as it is, erodes at the strength of commitment, which is timeless. Self-confidence, also being timeless, builds commitment. It nourishes the withered vision we hold dear and reminds us that our visions are indeed worthy of our commitment. And the results of commitment nourish self-confidence, for we see that we are capable of creating heaven on earth.

What a difference between the life lived in the circular motion of confidence, commitment and action and that which is lived in the circle of doubt, trying and inaction.

Now the real secret: It's your choice. ■

Coming Out in Spanish

The National Gay Task Force has published a Spanish translation of its pamphlet "About Coming Out." The pamphlet, entitled "Sobre El Asunto De Dar Se A Conocer Como Homosexual", is oriented toward gay people going through the coming out process. In addition to a personal focus, the pamphlet outlines current educational and political rationales for coming out, and provides a bibliography on general gay issues.

Copies are available for \$1.00 from NGTF, Suite 1601, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011. ■

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Published twice each year, the guide contains over 80 pages with members listed in 170 different categories including bars, hotels, restaurants, travel agents, shops, clubs, and employment agencies. The booklet is a handy reference resource to gay and lesbian businesses, services, and professionals in the Bay Area.

To obtain a free copy, send a self-addressed, business-sized (#10) envelope with 54¢ postage to GGBA Buyer's Guide, Box 966, San Francisco, CA 94101. ■

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It's In The Stars -

Chart Comparisons: A Good Relationship Investment

by Max Moon

In our highly developed, disposable society of "charge it please, thank you very much", it's a relatively simple matter to find a partner, mate, lover, and/or spouse

...for a night. Sustaining said relationships over an extended period of time is an altogether different installment plan.

And so it goes. You want to get involved. Commitment, responsibility, a long term loan on love, companionship, and a secure investment...not an easy find, but you're ready. Do you know what to look for in another to fulfill those qualifications? Have you objectively considered your own qualifications? Have you objectively considered your own qualifications for such a venture? Maybe you're

going through a phase and are actually better off in the long run to remain independent. On the other hand, you may feel you've discovered "the one and only" who has swept you passed your sensibilities and into roller skates at Dreamland only to roll you into a wall a few months down the road. No fun! So many uncertainties; so many variables.

Compatibility is serious and complex. Terrific sex is one thing, but it doesn't mean love and can grow old fast. Love for love's sake doesn't pay the rent. Egos, emotions, communications, physical and spiritual inclinations are just a handful of considerations that constitute a foundation to a compatible relationship.

Proper counseling with a reputable astrologer regarding chart comparisons can greatly reduce, if not eliminate, the guess work and hesitancy in relationship development and cultivation. Such a service enables the client(s) to easily recognize areas of compatibility, common interests, differences, problem areas, future forecasts of relationship energy developments, and the simple recognition of whether the relationship will work at all. Beginning and existing relationships, alike, can benefit from this source of counseling.

In short, flower petal plucking "He loves me, he loves me not" and fatalism can easily turn into solid certainty with preparation and solutions to future potential problems as well as light shed on the good times. If you're even remotely considering a relationship with another, consulting an astrologer is as old as the stars, and chart comparisons are the E.F. Hutton for such an investment. ■

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